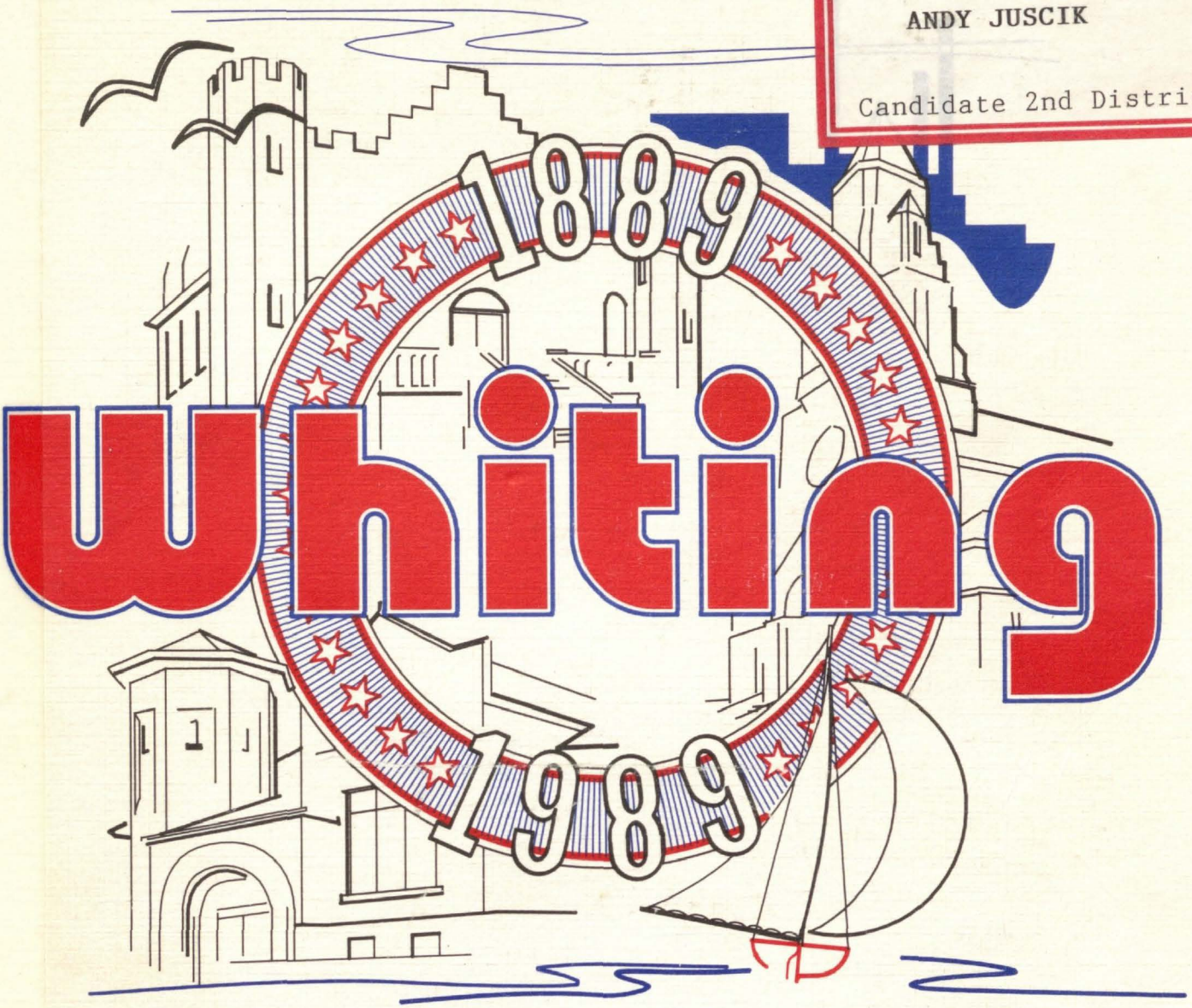
Compliments of:

ANDY JUSCIK

Candidate 2nd District



a centennial commemorative

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 16, 1989

To the Citizens of Whiting, Indiana:

You have my warmest congratulations as you celeb your 100th anniversary.

As you well know, Whiting is more than a collectio of buildings, it is more than a place on the map. From its earliest days, it has nurtured the lives a accomplishments of countless individuals -- individ united through the years by a common love for th place they call home. That deep sense of commun of responsibility toward one's neighbor and the co good, resonates through all cities and towns acros America. It is one of our nation's greatest strengths.

This milestone gives you a splendid opportunity to reaffirm that community spirit, taking just pride in the past and rededicating yourselves to the promise of a bright future.

Barbara and I send you best wishes for a joyous celebration. God bless you.

George Bush

3 3113 01490 5766

ROBERT J. BERCIK, MAYOR

1443 119th Street
P.O. Box 591
Whiting, Indiana 46394
(219) 659-7700

CITY OF WHITING, INDIANA

Dear Friends:

It is a privilege and honor to serve as Mayor of the City of Whiting during this Centennial Celebration and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their hard work and dedication, making each and every scheduled event a great success.

My sincere thanks to Anne Marie Gyure and Jacqueline Bercik, Co-Chairpersons of the Centennial Committee, for their efforts in organizing this celebration.

A special thanks to the many merchants, organizations, professional people and industrialists who contributed to our festivities.

As we traveled through this special year together, something wonderful happened. The pride in our community grew and we felt a brotherhood in our "Little City on the Lake". Working together became a joy as we celebrated each festivity commemorating our 100th year.

It is my wish that these feelings continue in our city for many, many years, so our sons and daughters may feel the same pride and joy living in the City of Whiting.

To all of you again, thank you. This Centennial Year will be a special memory to all of us.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Bercik

Robert J. Bercik
MAYOR

RJB:mr

LAKE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

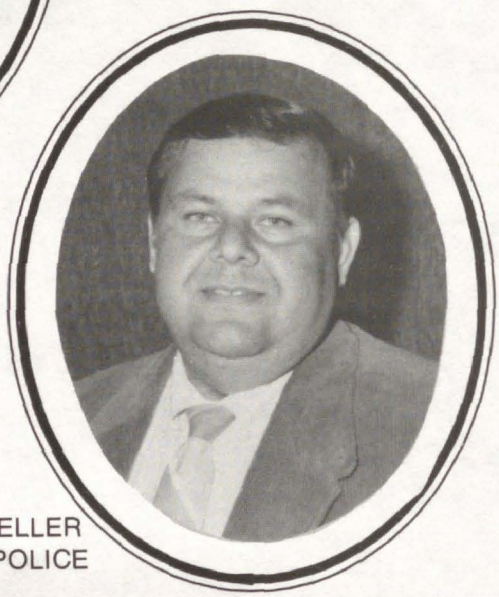
MAYOR AND CITY ADMINISTRATION

MAYOR
ROBERT J. BERCIK

JOSEPH STAHURA
COUNCILMAN, 1st DIST.

MARGARET DREWNIAK
CLERK - TREASURER

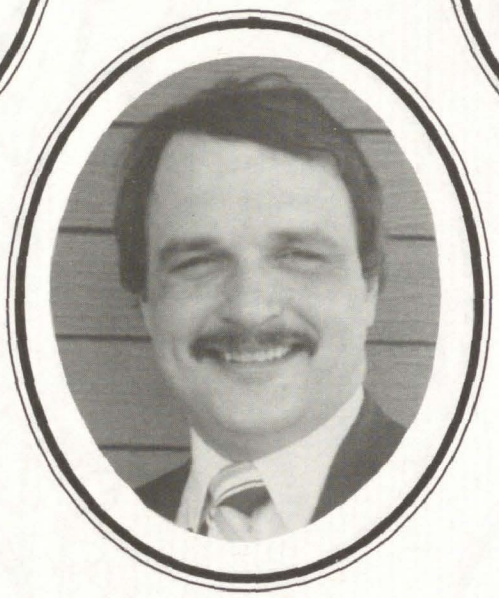
DONALD GRAY
CITY ATTORNEY



DENNIS WELLER
CHIEF OF POLICE

WILLIAM OBERMILLER
JUDGE

RONALD GYURE
CITY ENGINEER



MARK KOBLI
FIRE CHIEF

LITTLE TOWN

(AUTHOR UNKNOWN)

I LIKE TO LIVE IN A LITTLE TOWN,
WHERE THE TREES MEET ACROSS THE STREET,
WHERE YOU WAVE YOUR HAND AND SAY "HELLO"
TO EVERYONE YOU MEET.
I LIKE TO STAND FOR A MOMENT,
OUTSIDE THE GROCERY STORE,
AND LISTEN TO THE FRIENDLY GOSSIP,
OF THE FOLKS THAT LIVE NEXT DOOR.
FOR LIFE IS INTERWOVEN,
WITH THE FRIENDS WE LEARN TO KNOW,
AND WE HEAR THEIR JOYS AND SORROWS,
AS WE DAILY COME AND GO.
SO I LIKE TO LIVE IN A LITTLE TOWN,
I CARE NO MORE TO ROAM,
FOR EVERY HOUSE IN A LITTLE TOWN,
IS MORE THAN A HOUSE, IT'S A HOME.

WILLIAM JANSKY
COUNCILMAN, 2nd DIST.

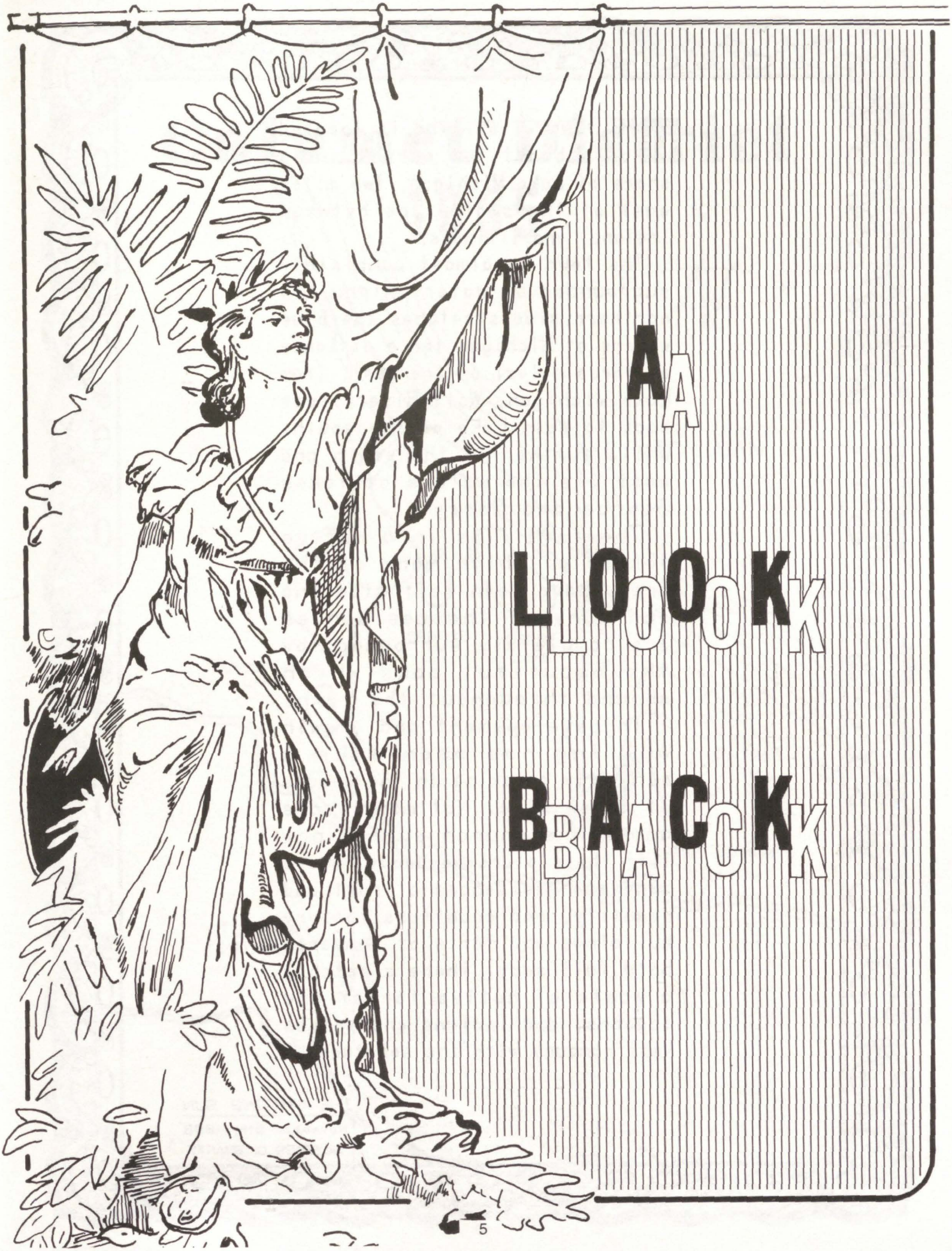
DON OWENS
COUNCILMAN, 4th DIST.

ANDREW HANIS
COUNCILMAN, 3rd DIST.

MILDRED GREER
COUNCILPERSON
5th DIST.

RUDY WUNDER
COUNCILMAN at LARGE

BILL CIESAR
COUNCILMAN at LARGE


A
LOOK
BACK

THE town of Whiting is located on a beautiful curve in the shore of Lake Michigan, two miles east of the state line between Indiana, and Illinois.

The town is almost completely surrounded by water. Along its northern side stretches the blue waters of Michigan for a distance of three miles; on the west, from Lake Michigan, Wolf River leads back to Wolf Lake on the south. While further to the south and east lie the waters of lakes George and Berry.

The town lies in a native forest of which many of the trees have been left standing and many of the residences are completely surrounded by the beautiful oaks which abound throughout the town.

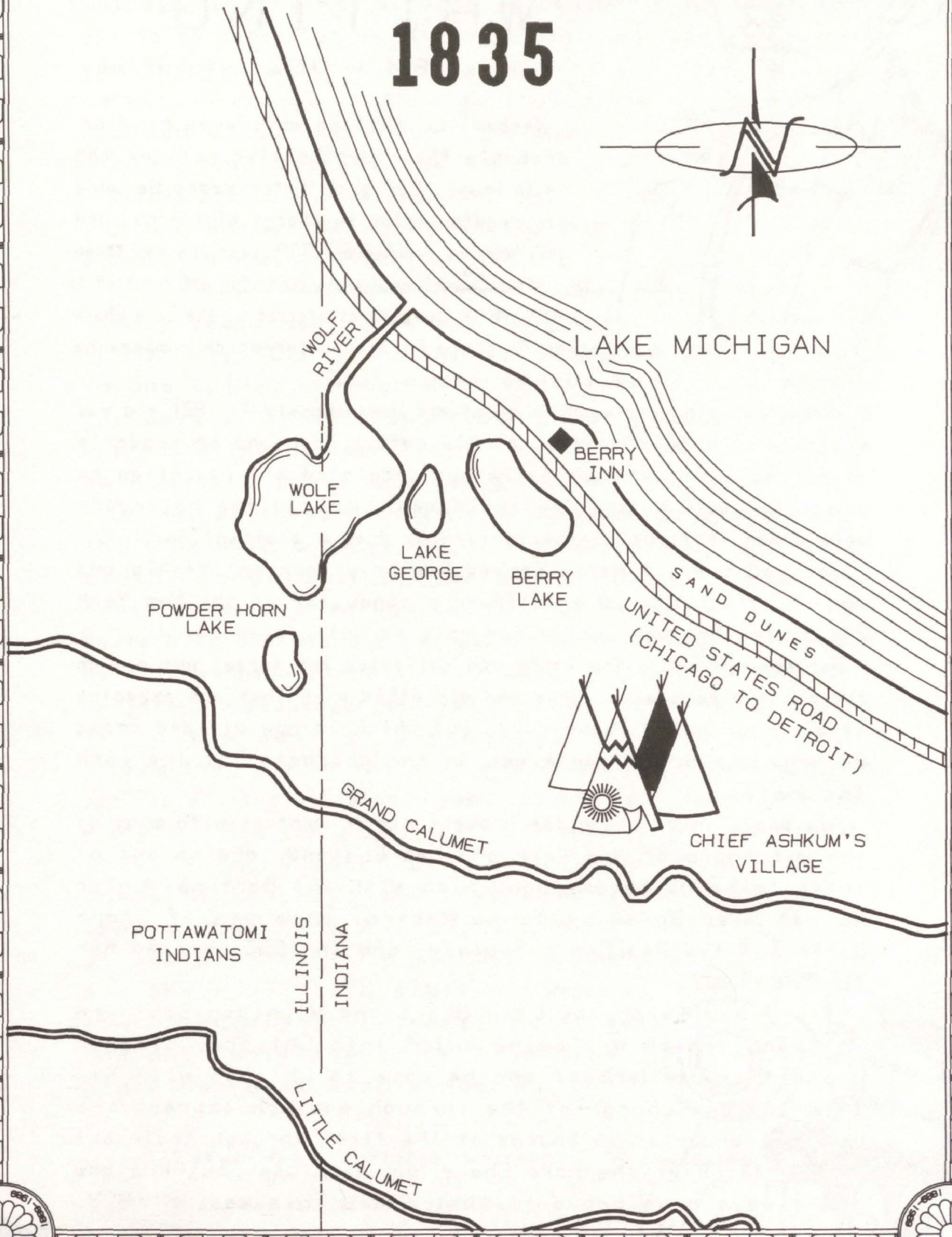
In developement and growth Whiting has been like a butterfly breaking in the beauty of a new life. Not many years ago where church spires now lift their piercing heads, where handsome residences attract and beautify, and countless factory buildings and marts of commerce hold full sway, there stretched a waste of native forest and lagoons, and indians and wolves kept company with the solitude...

THE WHITING SUN

November 5th, 1898

ULYSSES G. SWARTZ

Calumet District 1835



HERBERT L. "POP" WHITING

1821 - 1897

Herbert L. Whiting was, when he died, probably the oldest active railway man in Chicago. For over fifty years he made his regular trips in charge of trains, and only when he reached his 50th year, he was taken from his life work as a train conductor and detailed to special work in the general offices of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad, for which company he had worked since 1852.

Herbert Whiting was born in Brimfield Massachusets in 1821 and was educated in public schools of his native town and an academie at Springfield. As soon as he had completed his education he began to look around for employment, and as the railroads were a new institution they naturally drew his attention.

The young man finally served his brief apprenticeship and was put in charge of a train as a conductor on the New York and Boston Railway, which had only recently been built.

For several years the young man collected the fares, put oil on the brakes, handled baggage and did other work that was expected of a conductor in those days, but which is now divided among as many different employees as the character of the work indicates.

His position as conductor brought him in contact with many of the merchants of New York and New England, and on one of these trips he became aquainted with the Bartons. Later he met Miss Rosselle Towne Barton, a cousin of Clara Barton of the Red Cross Society, and in 1850 married her in Troy N.Y.

Two years later the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad, which was being built into Chicago, offered a position to Herbert and he came to Chicago with his wife to take charge of the through eastern express. He was the conductor in charge of the first through train out of Chicago over the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern and had always been proud of that fact. This was in 1852.

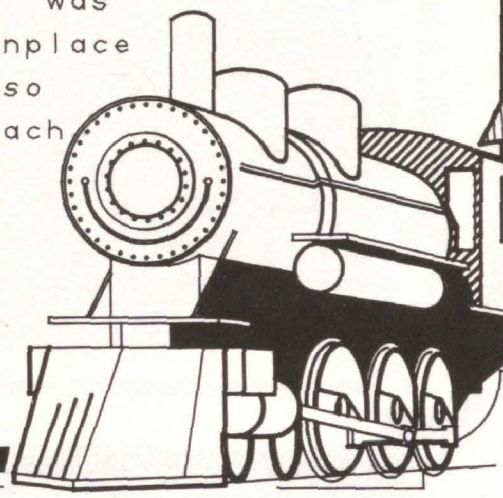
Herbert L. Whiting was the oldest employee in the service of that railroad at the time of his death and was probably the oldest conductor in point of service in Chicago. During his service as conductor he never lost a life by reason of an accident. This was one of the most remarkable features of his career. For over 50 years he was in charge of through trains and was in several accidents, but came out of all without a scratch to himself and without the loss of a single life.

It was probably this fact that lead to the town across the Indiana border being named for him as it marked the place of his worst wreck.

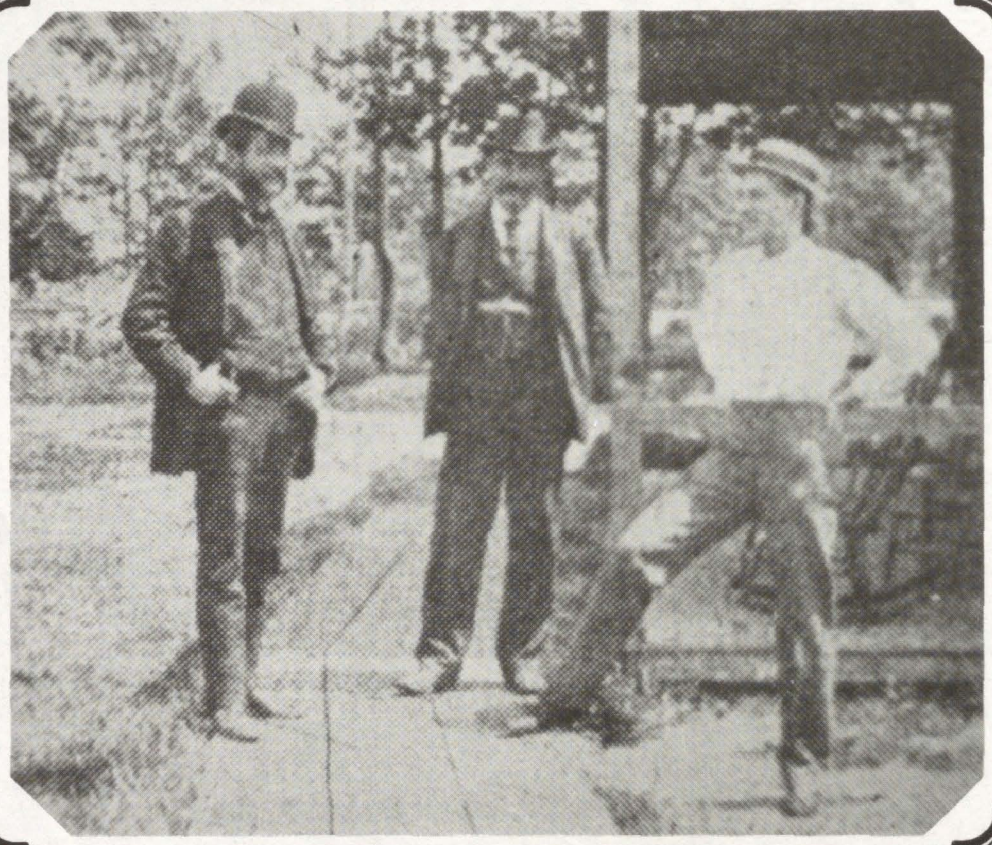
Many years ago, when the Lake Shore Railway was in it's infancy, "Old Pop Whiting" was an engineer pulling freight in and out of Chicago over that line. It was before the days of train dispatchers, and "Old Pop Whiting" who was withal a fearless, if not reckless, runner, not seldom took large chances in order to "make time".

On one of these occasions he was pounding along down the line with a heavy train, trying to make a certain siding to get out of the way of a fast passenger train that he knew was booming along behind him. His haste overcame his discretion and on a nasty bit of track he ditched his entire train, doing it all so neatly that he left the passenger as clear a track as if he had pulled in on the desired siding.

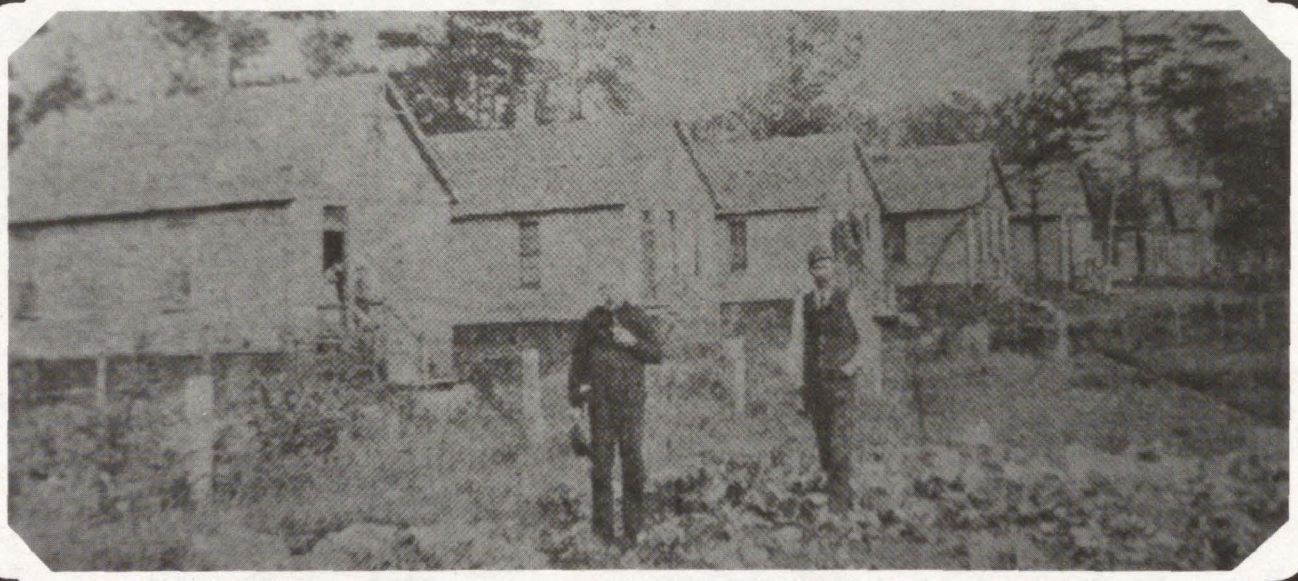
From that day on the spot was known among railroad men as "Pop Whiting's Siding". When the Standard Oil people came along, looking for a spot to locate their odoriferous plant, this "no mans land" of a place seemed to fill the bill exactly, and they were quickly its owners. But "Pop Whiting's Siding" was altogether too long and too commonplace for their use as a station name, so they amputated the tradition at each end and "whitings or Whiting" the place has been ever since.



Taken from articles written at the time of Herbert L. Whiting's death



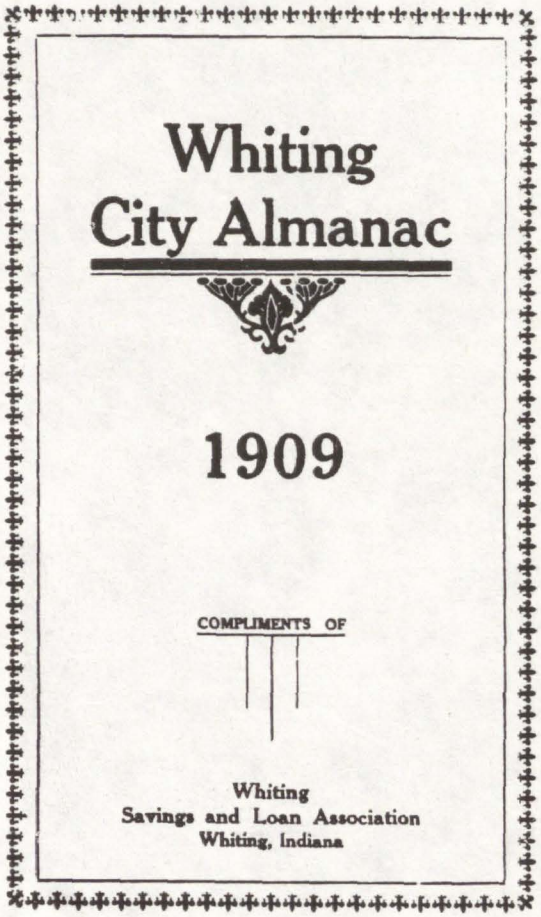
the
"BUNKHOUSE"
FIRST BUILDING BUILT BY STANDARD OIL IN WHITING. PICTURED, CENTER, MASTER MECHANIC CURTIS, WHO DREW THE PLANS FOR THE FIRST 5 UNITS BUILT IN WHITING.



FIRST GROUP OF HOUSES AT BERRY LAKE
HENRY EGGERS AND SON IN FOREGROUND

OFFICE FORCE AT THE MAIN OFFICE OF STANDARD OIL

1894



TYPHOID FEVER

The prevalence of typhoid fever in Whiting, Hammond and East Chicago and Indiana Harbor, is ascribed to the pollution of Lake Michigan by sewage.

State Chemist Barnard posted an assistant in this district in the summer of 1908 for the purpose of making an elaborate study of the water supply of this district. The condition was found to be very bad indeed, as the pollution was apparent for several miles out from shore.

During 1907 Whiting had approximately 175 cases of the disease and the total estimate of cases for the northern half of the county for the same year varies from 1,000 to 2,000. The death rate was about 10 per thousand. This is about five times the Chicago death rate.

Northwest Winds Bring Typhoid

The researches of the Indiana State Board of Health indicate that the Calumet river is a great contaminating influence even now. Windstorms from the direction of the Calumet's mouth have usually been followed by typhoid outbreaks in the Indiana towns. The epidemic of 1907-8 prevailed during a period of frequent Northwest storms. When these ceased in April, 1908, the epidemic came to an end.

Most of the Lake County health authorities and sanitarians incline toward the scheme of diverting the sewage down the Chicago drainage channel. An exception is Dr. Weis the health commissioner of Hammond who advocates the filtration of the water supplies as a simpler remedy and more easily applied.

Dr. W. A. Evans of Chicago, Dr. A. J. Lauer of Whiting, Dr. Hurty and Chief Chemist Barnard of Indianapolis have been among the vigorous leaders in the campaign for pure water.

Impure water costs this district one life in every thousand, every year. The money loss is estimated at $250,000.

THE FIRST WHITING RAILROAD.

Perhaps the most important event of the early days was the coming of the first railroad. This was the Northern Indiana R. R. Co., which was pushed rapidly from Monroe on Lake Erie to Chicago. This was ready for business May 22, 1852. Passengers after reaching Monroe would proceed east by water. Nearly a year later the last link of railroad was completed and on Jan. 24, 1853, passengers could travel to Buffalo by an all rail route. The Northern Indiana and the Toledo, Norwalk and Cleveland lines are now portions of the L. S. & M.S. system.

The Pennsylvania lines through Whiting were opened Jan. 1, 1859 and the Baltimore & Ohio in November, 1874. General Torrence built the Calumet terminal into Whiting in 1889.

INCORPORATION OF WHITING.

The first effort to incorporate as a town was made in 1891. Everyone appeared to be in favor of the project. A mass meeting was held, committees were appointed and the Whiting News, then the only newspaper, was a warm advocate of the scheme. It was proposed to incorporate all the territory up to the state line. Before the second public meeting, strong and unexpected opposition arose. Many felt that we should let well enough alone. The advocates of incorporation found themselves in a minority and the scheme was dropped. The second attempt to incorporate was defeated by legal proceedings. The third attempt was successful and the first town board was elected in 1895. The city of Hammond had been busy in the meantime and had annexed Roby and Robertsdale and had even laid claim to a large part of Whiting. It was not until 1896 that the city of Hammond gave up all its claim to Whiting territory.

In 1899 Whiting was enlarged at the expense of East Chicago. Davidson's 7th Addition was taken in that year — about 21 acres.

In 1905 "New Oklahoma" about 15 acres, was annexed after the city of Hammond had disannexed the property.

Only Log House.

The only original log house remain ing in Whiting is the old Steiber house now situated on Indiana Boulevard south of the Polish church.

MUNICIPAL FACTS.

Whiting was incorporated as a town Oct. 1, 1895.

Whiting was incorporated as a city on May 4, 1903.

City hall was erected during the year of 1898.

Our city tax levy for municipal purposes 60 cents, for poll tax 50 cents.

Bonded indebtedness is $94,100 of which $75,000 is for park. $25,000 additional park bonds are to be sold.

Treasurer bond required during 1895, $2,000.

Treasurer bond required during 1908, $80,000.

THE LAKE FRONT PARK.

The land for the lake front park was purchased in 1908 from the Forsyth family. The cost was $75,000 and was paid for by the issuance of $75,000 worth of 5 per cent serial bonds, payable in from one to twenty-five years. A premium of $2,505 was received from the sale of the bonds.

It is planned to begin the work on improvements in the spring of 1909. Mr. T. H. Reynolds has been chosen supervisor.

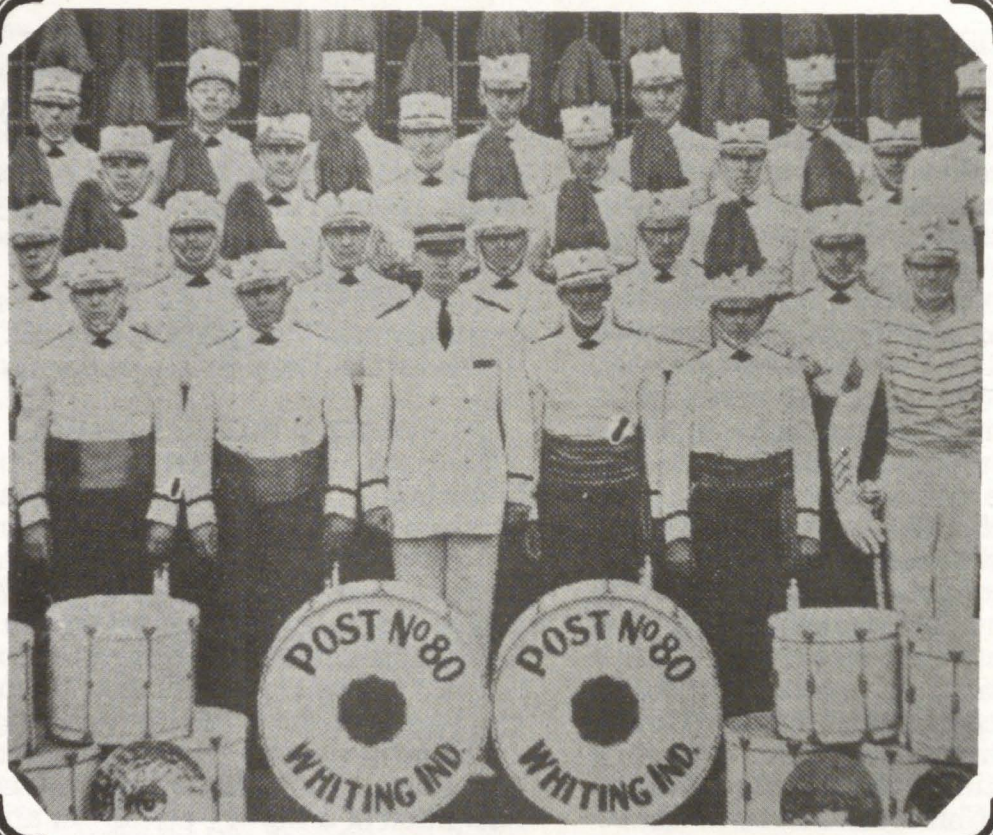
WHITING PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The public library was organized in 1904, following a public mass meeting at Goebel's Opera house, at which the project was endorsed. This meeting was arranged for by some of the members of the Whiting Improvement Association, notably Mr. J. C. Hall, Superintendent of Schools, who with Mr. W. M. Greatrake and other members, has long been interested in this subject.

The public interest was so great that the city council immediately authorized the formation of a library board. An application made to Mr. Andrew Carnegie for a gift of money was promptly answered by an offer of $15,000 for a building. The site was donated by the Standard Oil Company.

The imposing red stone building at the corner of Oliver Street and Ohio Avenue is one of which the Whiting public can well be proud. Surrounded as it is by well kept lawns bright with flowers, it is the most attractive building in the community. The interior of the building fulfills the promise of exterior: with two reading rooms decorated and furnished with the greatest care and thought for the comfort of the patrons, while the children's room is especially attractive with pictures, ferns and open shelving.

On the shelves behind the delivery desk is a well selected collection of books for adults. Here the reader may browse to his heart's content. The entire collection of books in the library numbers about 4,000 and is being added to at the rate of 100 volumes per month.



WHITING'S
AMERICAN
LEGION
DRUM & BUGLE
CORPS
1939

STOIC
TURN OF
THE CENTURY
OFFICE
WORKERS

FIRST GRADUATING CLASS
WHITING HIGH SCHOOL

L to R (BACK)
ANNA BUSTINE
CHARLES KLOSE
CONSTANCE WALSH
L to R (FRONT)
LEORA NANZER
FLORENCE STEWART

WHITING/ROBERTSDALE CAMPFIRE GIRLS & BLUEBIRDS
ENRICH THE LIVES OF WHITING'S YOUTH - 1958

(Condensed from the Whiting Times, August 4, 1939.)

The first settler between the state line and the eastern line of East Chicago was Henry Reese, who came here in 1852.

He was followed by other families, mostly Germans, and a small settlement was formed.

For several years after the first settlements, Indians, wolves, countless water fowl and other wild game abounded. The people found a livelihood, in hunting and fishing, and small farming and picking berries. And often when returning from a days labor the cry of the wolves rang in the ears of these hardy and fearless people.

The stretches of lagoons made roadways scarce and hard to build and the common mode of travel was by foot or boat. Chicago was then but a small place but served as a market place for game, fish and berries. And often one day was spent in securing supplies for the market and the next in a tramp to Chicago, 17 miles away, packing game and berries to market, following the beach and the Indian trails for roads.

East Chicago had no settlement, and no thought of the city of Hammond existed.

For a short time a stage line stopped at a home occupied by a Mr. Berry who lived on the bank of the lake bearing his name.

Many years later a family living at what is known as Steiglitz Park could reach the store at the end of 119th street, only by boat, and could row within a few hundred feet of the store.

In 1871 the post office was established, bearing the present name of the town.

Before this a station had been established on the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern railroad bearing the name Whitings. This name was of natural acquisition. Here it was a train was wrecked. The conductors name, was Whiting. Whiting's wreck was a matter of thrilling interest in those quiet times and fixed the name of "Whitings" to the locality. A name which was changed to "Whiting" when the post office was established.

About the same time as the establishment of the post office the first polling place was opened, comprising all the territory between the state line and the vicinity of East Chicago lying north of the chain of small lakes. there were about 50 voters. Prior to this, those who were patriotic enough to make the effort, either walked to Hessville to vote, or preferring to ride they took the train to Grand Crossing then changed cars and rode to Gibson, and walked from there to Hessville. For many years no wagon roads or bridges were built. An accident occurred while building the Ft. Wayne road which illustrates the hardships of the times.

A man died and there being no burial place here he was taken to Chicago for burial. While crossing Wolf River the wagon bearing the dead, had to be taken through water so deep that it floated the coffin out of the wagon into the lake and it was necessary to get a canoe and row after it to recover it.

In the midst of these hardships there grew a sturdy hardy people, who, from the necessities of the times learned to take advantage of the little things of life to help them on to success.

The chrysalis developed and was ready for the phase of life into which it was about to pass.

The great transformation scene occurred in 1889, with the advent of the Standard Oil Co., and its immense refinery. The scene of repose and quietude was changed to one of energy and activity. On Saturday May 4, 1889, the first ground for the refinery was broken, under the direction of Wm. A. Barstow, who changed sand ridges and sloughs into one level surface for the erection of immense buildings.

Temporary quarters were erected for workmen, and houses, stores and dwellings began building.

Trains were run from Chicago to carry workman to and fro and the activity continued night and day. The result was that in two years Whiting had a refinery covering about 400 acres of land, employing nearly 2,000 men, distributing about $100,000 in wages, monthly, and producing an output of oil rarely equalled in quality and quantity in the world.

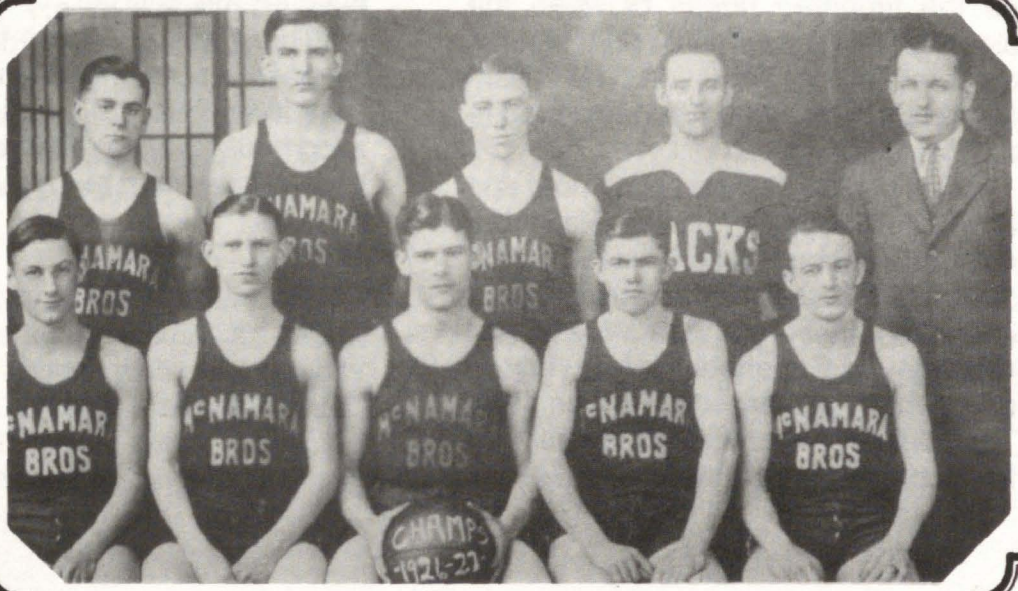
The town grew and instead of the 25 or 40 families who lived between the state line and East Chicago in 1889, in 1892 Whiting had a voting population of about 600 and a population of about 3,000. Since this time much additional construction has been done at the refinery and the town has doubled in population having an estimated population of 6,000, with a voting population of between 1,200 and 1,300.

THE YOUTH OF WHITING'S PAST

FATHER LACH'S BOYS' AND GIRLS' BAND WITH HERBERT HOOVER
1931

WORKING AND PLAYING TOGETHER

BUILDING THE **FOUNDATION**



"In the dim ages of the past, long before the white man had invaded the sandy shores of Lake Michigan, the site of what is now the city of Whiting was a favored hunting and fishing grounds of the Illini tribe of red men.

"The swamps and sloughs productive of wild rice and esculent aquatic roots were the feeding ground of innumerable wild ducks and geese and the migrating wild pigeons darkened the sky in their annual flight. The treacherous Lake Michigan, teeming with fish, tempted the savage to risk his life in his frail bark canoe, that he might enjoy the pleasure of gormandizing on the delicious flat white fish or the enticing muskellunge.

"Fierce battles were fought when some predatory tribe presumed to trespass on the preserves of the war-like Illini and the placid waters of the sloughs were dyed red with the blood of the contending warriors."

Little Suitable Land

To this primitive paradise the white settler was slow in coming. Little land suitable for cultivation could be found on the timbered ridges between the sloughs. Topographical peculiarities rendered travel difficult. Until the advent of the railroads, the wilderness remained unbroken.

It was in 1851 that the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern railroad (New York Central) reached Miller's station and, soon afterwards, Chicago. Seven years later the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago road pushed through, followed by the Baltimore and Ohio in 1874. The Calumet terminal (Chicago Belt line) connected the three in 1888.

With the railroads came the men employed in their construction and maintenance; with the men, their families.

Henry Reese Account

Through the years they came, and settled. Why did they choose Whiting? Perhaps the account given by Henry Reese is typical. He said:

"When I left my native town (Hohnhurst in Hesse) to go to America, one of the women ran out to say the last word. "When you get to America, ask the first man you see, where does Carl Steiber live?" America was not so small as this lady thought, but I soon learned about Carl Steiber.

I was working at Arlington Heights when another friend, also a Hessian, told me that Steiber was the section boss on the new railroad at Whiting and that he was paying his men the wonderfully large wages of $1 a day. As soon as possible I brought my wife and three-weeks' old baby to Whiting and was at once put to work by Steiber. This was the spring of 1854, the year after building the railroad.

"There was no house to be had, so the section men and neighbors stopped work for a couple of hours and built me a log house on the railroad right of way. It took fifteen men two hours to build me a home.

1857—Henry Eggers purchased 80 acres at Berry Lake for $5.75 an acre. J. F. K. Vater paid $51 for 23 acres of beach land for which heirs received some $100,000 when it was sold to the railroads. Levi Hohman of Hammond was offering his large holdings for $3 an acre. George M. Roberts sold to David G. Webber land north of 117th street for $1 an acre.

1871—Land sold by Webber to Ellinwood in 1866 for $3 an acre, sold at $80 an acre.

1873—Edward Roby bought a large tract in Roby for $200 an acre.

1886—Robert Klose purchased from the Roberts estate three and one half acres at New York avenue and 119th street for $460. This land was worth $30,000 by 1911.

1891—No land could be had for less than $2,000 an acre and some transfers were made at higher figures.

It may be briefly stated that in 1853 land was worth $1.25 an acre; In 1873 the price advanced to $100 and in 1889 to $1,000 and more.

"The coming of the Standard Oil was a great event." Henry Reese described the land boom, "Conrad Wuestenfeld was the first, I think, to sell to the company. "Conrad came to me one night and said: 'Henry, I am offered $300 an acre for my farm. Would you advise me to take it?'"

Receives $400 an Acre

"I advised against selling, as it seemed to me that anyone who would pay as much as $300 an acre probably wanted it bad enough to pay more. I think he afterwards received about $400 an acre for it.

"I did not buy any land myself in the early days. Although I would have been glad to have bought a piece of land with good garden soil, none was offered me. I could have bought 40 acres near Stieglitz park for $50, but it was mostly slough land. There were 29 acres offered me on the shore of Lake Michigan, north of 117th street and west of the present Whiting park. I could have had it for $75, but it was too sandy to be of any use.

"Ernest Hohman, the justice of the peace, took Carl Steiber and me over his land holdings which lay south of the Calumet river. He was very anxious to make a sale and he took us over one ridge after another as far south as the cemetery. It seemed to me that there were more than 30 sloughs and ridges that we crossed that day. He told us that he had over 900 acres and was willing to sell for $3 an acre. We were not persuaded and we did not buy the property.

"To day it lies in the heart of the city of Hammond."

ROBERTSDALE VOLUNTEERS

THE FOLKS OF WHITING WORKING.....

AND

RELAXING

TOGETHER

"At the Chittenden bridge were two famous resorts. One was run by the notorious Bill Reese, whose physical strength and capacity for violence gave him a reputation as a 'terror.' All old settlers could tell about Bill Reese's prowess, how he whipped 12 men who were armed with clubs and ox yokes, how he met his death, shot from ambush by a young hunter whom he had tried to terrorize, and how the resulting murder trial became the great event of its kind."

"Charles Kreuter's place on the shores of Lake George was another of the best known resorts in the neighborhood, as was that of John Kreuter at Sheffield station. Frank Reinhart and his successor, Vincennes, occupied a resort which stood near the Lake Shore station until the coming of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad."

"One other place, especially must be noted on account of the great beauty of its surroundings, the spot at Berry lake and where Henry Eggers entertained fishermen and hunters who visited him. This place kept its beauty for only two seasons after the Standard came. The older men remember with deep regret the rich luxuriance of its wooded banks, its water lilies, and its beautiful group of sentinel-like birches, marshalled single file at the northern end of the lake."

"A famous hunter of the '60's and '70's was Edward Slater. F. Oppermann remembered a tradition that once when the ducks were flying pretty close together, Slater brought down 56 birds with a single discharge of his double-barreled gun. At a later time, Fred Eggers, William Vater and Frank Horlbeck had much local fame."

Last Turkeys Bagged

It was Vater who bagged the last pair of wild turkeys seen in this locality.

In the earliest days, Henry Reese averred, "foxes were so tame that they would come within a few feet of you without alarm. I remember especially two big wolves that I was somewhat afraid of. They would be very awkward to meet suddenly at the wrong time and place.

Although few families made fishing a means of livelihood, "there was lots of fishing going on with seines, out a mile or so in the lake, and with hooks and lines on the breakwater," according to Mrs. Robert Klose.

"Young folks and everybody had a chance. They caught a lot of fish, more than they could use, they'd haul in as much as the seines could hold. They used to smoke a lot of the fish, and eat a lot, and sell some, whenever they could."

Berries played no small part in providing a living for the settlers, and the controversy still rages as to whether Berry lake took its name from a family called Beary, traditional hunting lodge keepers on the lake shore.

"From the time the first strawberries came until the snow fell, the Almanac declared, "There was a succession of berry crops. Strawberries were distributed over most of the region and raspberries were especially plentiful near Berry lake. When the huckleberry season came, it was necessary to go farther east, because the best huckleberries were to be found only at Tolleston. The last crop of the year was that of the cranberries. which grew in the famous marshes east of Berry lake and extended as far east as Clarke station."

Forsythe Home Burns

In 1871, the memorable year of drought and conflagrations, the Forsythe homestead, as well as Chicago burned. In Oliver Forsythe's words:

"During the month of September, my father was absent on a business trip. The marshes about us began to dry up, and filled as they were with a century's accumulation of vegetable matter, they became quite inflammable. I became very uneasy, especially as our house could not be protected against a fire in the woods and marshes."

"I urged my mother to bury our books, for our library contained about 1,000 volumes— and this we did finally, wrapping them in sheets, and covering them with sand."

"Meanwhile the fires grew more frequent in the woods about us, although when my father returned from New York he insisted that the danger was not serious. He had the books dug up and placed on the library shelves. Hardly was this done before the conflagration came. The fire swept up to our homestead so quickly that we had no time to save anything of value. We almost saved our piano, but not quite."

"We had a faithful German working for us who was helping to move out the piano and was carrying one end. When the instrument was half out of doors, he suddenly bethought himself of a suit of old clothes he had in the basement. The thought paralyzed him, and losing all interest in the piano, he let fall his end in the doorway and dashed for the stairway. I don't know whether he saved his suit of clothes or not. It wasn't worth over $2, anyway."

"The fire also took many pigs and much valuable farm machinery.

Dug Holes in Swamp

"We all got into a big wagon and drove into a swamp where we dug holes in the moist earth for greater protection, and remained there until we felt we had a safe road out. We made our way to Cassella and from there drove along the shore of Lake Michigan to Berry lake, where we stopped overnight at the home of John F. K. Vater."

"In the morning we boarded the Pennsylvania train at Berry lake station, a group of fugitives. When the westbound train stopped at the station we learned of a greater calamity than ours—that fire had stricken Chicago also, and that the day of our disaster, October 9, 1871, would live in history as the day of the great Chicago fire."

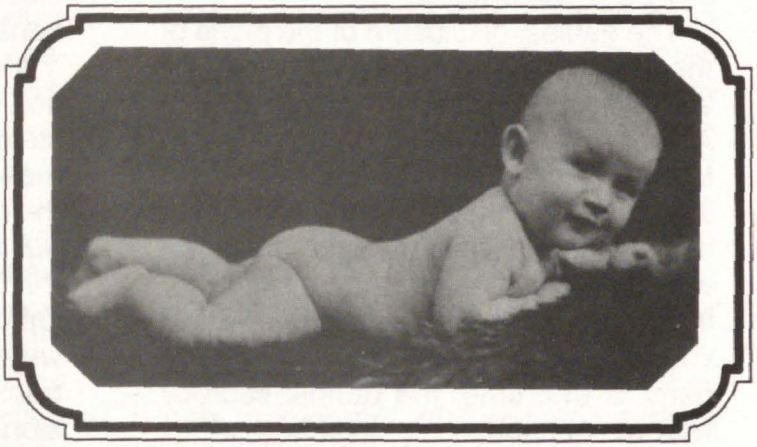
"The day before the fire my father had purchased the Steiber tract from John Steiber for $8,000. My father gave him in payment a check on the Chicago bank of George C. Smith and brother. Steiber was, of course, very much excited when the fire came and the bank was burned out. He was also very much relieved a few days afterwards when the bank reopened in a solvent condition."

In that year, even the soil in the marshes caught fire and burned to the depth of a foot beneath the surface. Henry Reese remembered that the soil smouldered for two weeks at the spot where White Oak avenue crosses 121st street now.

CENTER OF A SMALL TOWN'S GOSSIP AND POLITICS - THE BARBER SHOP

A HAPPY WEDDING PARTY, Circa 1900

MARBLE "KING" OF INDIANA
HERSHEL WINSBERG (LEFT)
INDIANA STATE CHAMP
1925



ROBERT BERNARD GOLDING
PRETTIEST BABY IN WHITING
1924

(Condensed from "Some Early Days at Whiting," by U. G. Swartz.)

The development of the Lima oil field made the location of a refinery at Chicago imperative. . . In the latter eighties, the Standard Oil company was successful in perfecting a method of refining this oil by the copper oxide process. . .To supply steel and other industries in Chicago with fuel oil, a pipe line had been laid across Indiana and tanks erected in Chicago on the lake at the foot of 100th street. This station was called Fleming park. The location of these tanks and the pipe line terminal. . . made East Side, Chicago, a logical place for consideration for the location of the refinery.

. . . Had the refinery been built there the values of the Calumet Region in Indiana for industrial purposes might not have been disclosed to the business world until a much later time, and the territory from the state line to Dune park might still be a wilderness.

The earliest disclosure of the plans of the New York authorities for a refinery at Whiting were made in February, 1889. At that time W. M. Irish and James A. Moffett, and W. P. Cowan, called on William Curtis, then master mechanic of the Cleveland refinery and arranged with him to make some blue prints for the future work of construction. In the very characteristic manner of the company at that time, the utmost secrecy was maintained.

The purchase of the land had been going on for some months. Representatives from New York, accompanied by Henry Schrage, then postmaster of Whiting and general storekeeper, visited the owners of the different little farms, buying up the acreage desired. No hard bargaining was indulged in, but each owner was bound to secrecy both as to the sale of his land and as to the purchase price. These original purchases embraced approximately 300 acres, lying in a fairly rectangular shape. A Public road ran through it in a southeasterly direction, cutting it into two pieces of nearly equal size. Some of the land bordering on this road was not included in this purchase, possibly 100 acres altogether. Along this road between the two sides of the plant a little town sprang up, characteristically called Oklahoma. All this land was bought by the company a few years later, and about 100 houses were moved from there to Whiting. The road was closed and the land used for additional construction.

Men were secured from every direction for the increasing demands of construction work. A large force of boiler makers was brought from Buffalo, under the direction of George Keimm, and was put to work building the tanks north of the Pennsylvania company tracks. Others from Cleveland and elsewhere were placed at work south of these tracks on tanks and stills. With this division of men the north side of the plant became the "Buffalo Side" and the south side the "Refinery Side."

With the commencement of the construction of the Whiting refinery one of the first questions arising was that of the rates of pay for the different classes of workmen. The basic wage was that of common labor, which was fifteen cents per hour. Other lines of work were paid accordingly: firemen and stillmen helpers, sixteen and two-thirds cents; bricklayers, forty-five cents; pipe fitters, twenty-two and half cents, other mechanics in proportion. The prevailing day was ten hours. Clerks on the open roll received from fifteen to twenty cents per hour.

Men flocked to the new plant from all parts of the country and from the whole of Europe. The gates were thronged with anxious men every morning. Foremen took their pick of these and hundreds were turned from the gates, hoping for better luck next time. Some came morning after morning until they became familiar figures, and finally achieved the coveted place. Common laborers constituted a major part of the workers. These were largely foreigners of non-English speaking races. Eventually, all these people separated into groups from their own European localities. They were unwilling for anyone of other nationalities to work in the same gang with them.

Gala Day for All

Payday, however meager the pay, was a gala day for all. For the first two years the pay was distributed during work hours, in cash, from a light wagon with the top enclosed with a wire screen. The paymaster and head timekeeper, with a driver, went from group to group all over the plant, through the outlying places, Oklahoma and the cottages, handing out the pay to each one. The wagon was everywhere met by groups of eager men.

However hazardous this may have been and whatever rough characters may have been drawn here for employment, no effort was ever made to molest this slightly guarded pay wagon.

In 1891 a small payhouse was built near the main office with pay windows on each side. At each window the line formed a long queue on paydays, as the workmen thronged for their money. Greater care was taken the large amount of money required to pay the many men then at work, armed watchmen always being maintained.

After the payhouse was built, the noon hour was shortened to twenty-five minutes and, on payday, the whistle blew for quitting an hour earlier than on other days, making a partial holiday of the late afternoon.

The little town then presented a festive appearance.

The buildings on the west side of Front street from the Pennsylvania tracks to 119th street were almost a solid row of saloons. In front of each were four or five steps the entire width of each building and on those the workmen gathered to jollify over the day. Thicker than birds on a telegraph wire they perched on these long rows of steps, each with his dinner pail between his knees, slaking their unyielding thirst. Various signs on the buildings, in foreign languages, appealed to the thirsty throng. One of these, freely translated, invited the wayfarer to "take another one in memory of the loved absent ones." How those boys did love the absent ones! Another, and yet another was called for. None were forgotten. Everyone loved someone. . .

Immense sewers were begun, large enough to take care of the increased demands made on them. The south and east sides of the property was largely under water. Where the storage tanks were built, it was necessary to wheel sand into the water for paths, and to build sand rings around the foundations of the tanks to dam the water, so that tanks could be built. When the tanks were put into service, a boat was used to get from one tank to another to operate valves and read gauges. After the sewers had been in operation for several months they drained off much of this surface water, and in 1897 great stretches of sloughs and parts of Berry lake went dry. People waded into the shallow pockets of water and picked up large fish carrying them away in bucketfuls. Thousands of these fish perished because of this drainage of surface water.

Oklahoma was a good place for "shooting scrapes." One of the most thrilling occurred when a gang of roughnecks tried to force entrance into a saloon in order to break up the bar room fixtures. The wife of the proprietor leaned out of the second-story window and shot two of the marauders through the head, killing them instantly. For this she was tried and acquitted.

Lays Out Village

With the growing demand for houses in 1889 the company laid out a little town site commonly known as "The Village," embracing the avenues: Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York and the north side of 119th street between Ohio and New York avenues, and began the construction of cottages, under charge of J. Mitchell Ritchie, on all these streets except New York avenue.

Sidewalks in these streets were laid with boards. The houses were supplied with water from the works' mains. No other places had running water until after Whiting was incorporated. The building plan for residences was completed in 1891, when houses were built on New York avenue. Rentals were based on a small per cent of the cost of the properties. These houses were sold about 10 years later. The occupants at that time were given the first chance to buy them. No one but an employee was allowed to be a tenant of these houses while the company owned them.

The south side of town was filled up with those who did not have the good fortune to secure one of the company's cottages, and while this district was unrestricted, tough joints were not frequent, and if once developed, were soon suppressed. It was an early policy of Mr. Cowan to get rough characters off the payroll as soon as possible; always the preference was given to married men and to those of orderly habits. Whiting never was the place of the bad man—or woman either.

Truly an Oil Refinery

The Whiting plant was truly an oil refinery. Its chief purpose was the refining of lighting oil. Gasoline was only something to be rid of. It was not many years earlier that gasoline in eastern refineries was poured into the steams and burned.

At the time of the opening of our story, Whiting comprised a post office and three railway stations, all having different names. The name of the post office was Whiting. Berry Lake, situated at the east end of the beautiful lake of the same name, was the name of one station on the same road at 119th street, while the name of the station on the L. S. and M. S. railway was Whitings. This was located at the foot of 119th street opposite the post office.

Confusion of Names

Before the advent of the Standard Oil company the vicinity was generally known as Whitings. Mr. Cowan did not take kindly to this confusion of names, and at his request the L. S. and M. S. railway changed their station name to the name of the post office. About the same time the station at Berry lake was abandoned and the name of Fields was changed to Whiting by the Pennsylvania company. Later the houses in Berry lake and Oklahoma were moved to Whiting, the land at Berry lake being used for railway yards and that at Oklahoma being absorbed into the refinery. Thus the name of the entire community became Whiting.

Assault Made

On the evening of July 17, 1893, a group of seven wandering strangers came to the Hunter's resort of William Timm in Robertsdale. This was situated in a sparsely settled place between the Pennsylvania company and L. S. and M. S. railway tracks. A murderous assault was made upon Timm and when the fight was over two of the attacking force lay dead and another was so seriously injured that he died a few weeks afterward; while Timm and George Dorsch, who had come to his assistance, lay seriously injured.

The incident demonstrated the urgent need of municipal protection. All the attacking party who were uninjured made their escape. There was no one to take charge of the dead or injured stranger. The sheriff's office which had nominal charge of the enforcement of the law and order was 30 miles away over roads, largely, very bad. The injured man was securely fastened to a tree with a chain, there, with the dead to wait till the next afternoon, when representatives of the sheriff took charge of the situation. Strange as it may seem, the cause and purpose of this attack was never discovered, nor the identity of the men.

Such an experience shocked all sentiments of humanity. Fear, too seized the hearts of those living in Robertsdale. The name embraced the territory lying directly northwest of the village of Whiting. Whiting having refused to incorporate, the citizens of Robertsdale presented a petition to the mayor of Hammond, Thomas Hammond, to annex their territory to this city. Their appeal met with success and Hammond annexed all the territory lying between Atchison avenue and the state line.

CHARLES KLOSE
AT THE WHEEL OF
A "BRUSHE" — ONE OF
THE FIRST AUTOMOBILES
IN WHITING

WE COULDN'T HAVE
GONE FAR WITHOUT
STANDARD OIL'S FAMOUS
"RED CROWN" GASOLINE

THE FAMILIES OF WHITING
WORKING TOGETHER TO BUILD
A STRONG AND
PROSPEROUS COMMUNITY

Streets Named for Pioneers

Many of the streets of Whiting were named for men who played an important part in the building of the community. The streets and the men for whom they were named are:

Schrage avenue—Henry Schrage first store-owner, postmaster and banker; established the Bank of Whiting, 1895; early road supervisor.

Forsythe avenue—Jacob Forsythe, early Lake county landowner and Oliver Forsythe, manager of the large acreage following his father's death in 1899.

Clarke street—George W. Clarke, purchaser of land extending from the Indiana state line to Gary and bounded on the east by the middle of Broadway, 1853-1866. The cities of Indiana Harbor, East Chicago, Gary, Whiting and Hammond are built entirely or in part on the Clarke tract.

Roberts avenue—George M. Roberts, who purchased 160 acres of land, now the most valuable in Whiting and Robertsdale, March 5, 1849.

Atchison avenue—Robert Atchison, gravel-shipper, property-owner, and railroad man.

Davis avenue—E. S. Davis, gravel-shipper.

Warwick avenue—William E. Warwick, former mayor.

Fischrupp avenue—Frederick Fischrupp, early settler.

Steiber avenue— Carl and John Steiber, settlers between 1850 and 1860.

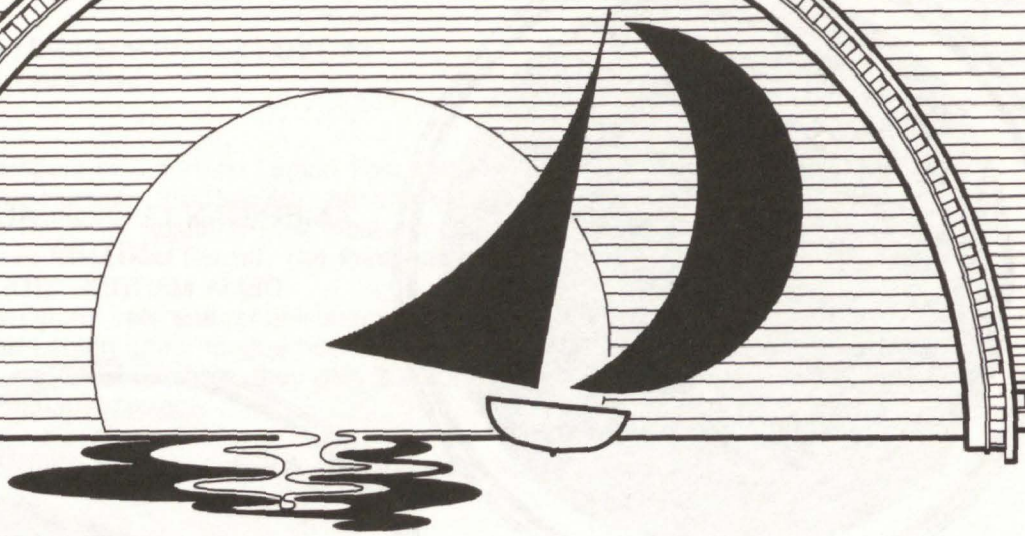
Reese avenue— Henry Reese, who came to live in this neighborhood in 1854; a section worker on the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern, Pennsylvania and Baltimore and Ohio railroads.

Benedict avenue— The Rev. Benedict Racjany, former pastor of St. John the Baptist church.

Sheffield place—The Sheffield hotel, completed in 1874 and destroyed by fire in 1910; built by a Chicago syndicate which arranged with Jacob Forsythe to purchase 8,000 acres of land as the site of an industrial city to be named for Sheffield, English manufacturing center; severe financial depression caused the collapse of the whole project.

Burton court—Dr. William Burton, former Standard Oil company (Indiana) president.

Stewart court—Colonel Robert W. Stewart, former chairman of the board of directors and executive head of the Standard Oil company (Indiana).



Whiting at 100

WHITING 1889 INDIANA

WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE DO

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
UNIT 80
DELIA MARTINE STOLARZ

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

AMERICAN LEGION
POST 80
FRANK PONCE, OBIE RAGLAND, JOHN BENO, JOE PALOVICK

AMERICAN LEGION WHITING POST 80
2003 Indianapolis Blvd.

The 625 members of American Legion Post #80 are led by Commander John Beno: First Vice Commander, Joe Palovick; Second Vice Commander, Frank Ponce; Finance Officer, O.B. Ragland; Adjutant, Dick Quattrin; Chaplain, Burt Tiemersma; Historian, Joe Tomera; Sgt-At-Arms, Jim Petruff. The Post was organized in December, 1921.

The group supports veterans rehabilitation, they visit veterans, sponsor youth programs, the American Legion junior league baseball, Boys and Girls State government programs, high school oratorical contests, they give $36,000 in scholarships and several other community and national projects.

During 1989, John Bobalik and Dick Quattrin were honored as Legionnaires of the Year.

BETA GAMMA UPSILON - IOTA CHAPTER

Beta Gamma Upsilon is a philanthropic sorority. Organized in 1911, Iota Chapter has 15 members. Officers are Carole Lahey, President, Jody Fife, Vice President, Judy Williams, Secretary, and Mary Ann Parish, Treasurer.

Some of the past and present area activities of Beta Gamma Upsilon include Meals on Wheels, the Whiting City Nurse, Girl Scouts, Impact, Whiting-Robertsdale Convalescent Home, TradeWinds, the Mayflower Home for Girls. The Chapter also supports the national project of Leader Dogs for the Blind.

The Chapter participated in the Centennial Blood Drive, will host the National Beta Gamma Upsilon Convention in the Spring of 1990 and they honored Mary Florence McFadden and Mary Jane Parker for being members of the Chapter for 50 years.

COMMUNITY BIBLE
CHURCH
REV. LESTER BURKEY

DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA
WHITING CIRCLE 81

FRONT ROW L to R:
DOROTHY HYNES, BERDIE CHILUSKI, FLORENCE KOVACIK

BACK ROW:
GERT SANDRICK, HELEN KOCHIELSKI, ANNE ZAVESKY
MARGE DEWEY, HELEN HOLICKY, IRENE SALIGA

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH
912 - 114th Street

Rev. Lester Burkey serves as Pastor of the 30 member congregation which has been in the Whiting-Robertsdale community since 1939.

Honored during 1989 as the oldest members of the Community Bible Church were Mr. & Mrs. Harold McKibben.

The first minister was Reverend Rhondes, followed by Reverend Hettinger, who is now in Pennsylvania.

DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA - WHITING CIRCLE 81

Founded in 1897, the 289 members of the Daughters of Isabella support local charities including the catholic churches, the Whiting Community Center, the Sacred Heart Program, the Gibault Home for Boys, St. Elizabeth Home for Unwed Mothers. The group also contributes to the financial support of young men who are in the seminary.

Led by Berdie Chiluski, Regent; Dorothy Trojnar, Vice Regent; Rosemarie Tobias, Financial Secretary; Gertrude Sandrick, Recording Secretary and, Mildred Umloff, Treasurer, the purpose of this fraternal organization is to unite all Catholic women to higher ideals within our society, establish bonds of unity, help members attain spiritual satisfaction, and provide service to the community.

As part of the Centennial celebration, the group joined the Centennial Century Club and helped sell Centennial raffle tickets. Many members worked throughout the year on various Centennial activities.

ELKS LODGE #1273
1521 - 119th Street

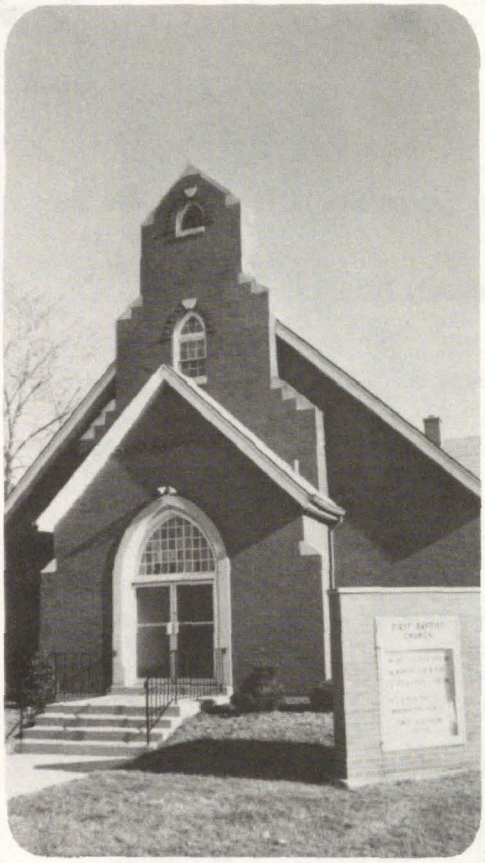
A fraternal, benevolent and patriotic organization, the Elks contribute to many charitable groups, the Elks National Foundation, veterans groups and support several local projects.

The honor of Elk of the Year during 1989 was bestowed on Robyn Stephens.

The Lodge bought a crab apple tree as part of the Centennial Tree Program and the men carried the "Charity Flag" in the Fourth of July Parade, a long-standing tradition of the Whiting Elks. Flag contributions totaled $1700, which will augment their other charitable gifts.

"Your Friends Are Our Friends" is their motto and brother Elks can be found taking part in any number of activities. Flag Day was created as a direct result of the Elks nationwide.

Founded in 1912, the 170 member Lodge officers are: Exalted Ruler, Robyn Stephens; President, Board of Trustees, G. Jerry Progar; Esteemed Leading Knight, Ernest J. Bakajza.



FIRST BAPTIST
CHURCH

FIRST CHURCH
OF CHRIST

GEORGE ROGERS CLARK
HIGH SCHOOL

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF WHITING
1749 Stanton Avenue

The First Baptist Church of Whiting was founded in 1935. The 60 member congregation is led by Rev. Samuel H. Schwenk who serves as Pastor.

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST
1829 Central Avenue

Robert M. Allen is the Pastor of the First Church of Christ.

Founded in 1905, the First Church of Christ moved to its present location in 1907. The congregation has 220 members.

Three church members are in the Centennial Chorus with one, Jeanne Allen, serving as Assistant Director.

WHITING KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS POPE JOHN XXIII COUNCIL #1696
1120 - 119th Street

Council #1696 was organized on June 13, 1913. In 1989 the Knights earned and donated $32,000 to further catholic education in the catholic grade schools in Whiting, Bishop Noll Institute and the Calumet College of St. Joseph. They have established an annual scholarship program for grade school and high school students attending catholic institutions.

The men had a float in the Centennial Parade and invited the Centennial Chorus to sing at one of their meetings.

Officers of the 702 member group are Grand Knight, W. Bernard Weber; Financial Secretary, Robert J. DuFallo; Chaplain, Rev. Ernie Krantz.

WHITING KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS WIVES CLUB

The 125 members of the K of C Wives Club help the mens' group with their major functions such as Corporate Communion Breakfasts, Las Vegas Night, Tootsie Roll Drive and the Cornfest.

The group works on a regular basis at the Hammond-Whiting Convalescent Center. In 1989 the women provided two wheel chairs for residents and sponsor monthly bingo games, ice cream socials, polka parties and a Christmas party. The Club joined the Centennial Century Club with a Gold Membership.

The Club was organized in 1962 and the current officers are: Elaine Caco, President; Dorris Weber, Vice President; Lorraine Strbjak, Secretary, and, Carol Lukasik, Treasurer.

GEORGE ROGERS CLARK ADULT BOOSTER CLUB

Organized to support all extra-curricular activities at the School, the Booster Club which has 175 members and is led by David Toth, President; Sue Swentko, Vice President; Pat Eski, Secretary; M. Swentko, Treasurer.

HUNGARIAN REFORMED CHURCH

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION HOLY NAME SOCIETY
L to R: WOODROW PAULINA, ERIC TOTH, FRANK VARGO

HUNGARIAN REFORMED CHURCH
1927 Indianapolis Boulevard

The Rev. Karl K. Ludwig is the Pastor of the Hungarian Reformed Church. Chief Elder is Magdaline Bajzatt, Kenneth Gyure is Assistant Chief Elder, Sylvia McClelland is the Secretary, and Louis Gyure serves as Treasurer.

The Church was founded in 1919 and has thirty-seven members.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH
White Oak Avenue at Fred Street

Located on the Northeast corner of White Oak Avenue at Fred Street, Immaculate Conception Church was founded in 1922 and now has 1000 parishioners. Rev. Anthony Ficko is the Pastor.

The Parish Council members include John J. Kovach, President; Rosemary Pavlina, Secretary; Arnold Grabovac; Judy Beda; Bob DuFallo; Mary Ann Domsich; Helen Hrpka; Romualdo Unate; Kenny Kusbel.

Fr. Ficko and the Parish Council work to institute and support programs, whether spiritual or material, for the betterment of catholic community life. Improvements to the Church grounds included the pavement of the sidewalks and the Church yard.

The Parish held a picnic and invited the entire community. Featured in the day-long activities were a bake sale, halupki dinners, bingo and the chance for everyone to get acquainted.

The Church had a decorative float in the Centennial parade which featured a beautiful replica of the Church Grotto which has long been a landmark in Whiting.

While striving to spiritually fulfill parishioners, Immaculate Conception is a Slovak parish, proud of its heritage and hoping that long cherished beliefs and dreams will be carried through generations. Traditional foods and music are an integral part of all parish functions. The Slovak flag is displayed proudly in the Church along with the Papal flag and the American flag.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION HOLY NAME SOCIETY

The Holy Name Society supports Immaculate Conception Church with financial contributions, necessary repairs, cleaning and painting, helps the needy and sponsors a family breakfast. As part of the Centennial Celebration, the group built a float for the Fourth of July Parade.

They also provide financial support to students of the Parish who graduate with honors from high school. In 1989, Eric Toth, Whiting High School Salutatorian, was so honored.

The IC Holy Name was organized in 1928. Officers are: Frank Vargo, President, and Woodrow Pavlina, Secretary-Treasurer. Fr. Anthony Ficko is Pastor.

OUR LADY
OF THE
ROSARY SHRINE

NATHAN HALE
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION ST. ANN'S SODALITY

Celebrating their 55th year, the St. Ann's Sodality worked with the Holy Name Society and the Parish to design and build a float for the Centennial Parade.

The 100 member women's group are led by Mary Blake, President; Ann Yazvec, Vice President; Mary Therese Dybel, Secretary; Eunice Dafcik, Treasurer; Audrey Filipek, Publicity; Spiritual Director and Pastor, Fr. Anthony Ficko.

Honored this year by the club were Agnes Sotak, an outstanding parishioner and Eric Toth, Whiting High School Salutatorian and a graduate of the IC grammar school.

The purpose of the group is to support the Parish in spiritual and corporal works, and to that end, each year they make and sell ethnic foods, such as noodles, nut rolls, and halupki (stuffed cabbage). One member, Helen Holicky, also conducts a knitting class each year.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY SHRINE, INC.

1719 Atchison Avenue

Dedicated on October 3, 1982, Our Lady of the Rosary is a traditional Roman Catholic Shrine that offers a Tridentine Latin Mass every Sunday.

Fr. John J. Quinn serves as Spiritual Advisor.

The Shrine endeavors to preserve the form of worship uniformly practiced by the Roman Catholic church for centuries. It also seeks to foster and maintain all the doctrine and all the practices of the church throughout the centuries, under the primacy and authority of the Papacy.

ROBERTSDALE WOMEN'S
DEMOCRATIC CLUB
L to R: IRENE MEINGASNER, BETTY CHIDALEK, MARY ANN ANGOTTI

SACRED HEART
CHURCH

SACRED HEART
SCHOOL

PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
1845 Stanton Avenue

Founded in 1890, the 55 member congregation is guided by Rev. C. James Facklam.

United for the worship of God and the service of man, the congregation provides a monthly church service for the Hammond-Whiting Convalescent Center and houses two Alcoholics Anonymous groups, supports Haven House and the Whiting Food Pantry and disperses benevolences locally and worldwide. They also entered a float in the Centennial Parade.

The Church will celebrate its centennial in 1990 and it is recorded that it was one of the first English-speaking churches in Whiting. The first Plymouth was a frame structure built on Center Street at a cost of $500. After several serious train accidents at nearby crossings, and after occupying some temporary sites, a new brick structure was built on 119th Street. This second church is the present Whiting City Hall. Because of steady growth, a third and final location was found at 119th and Stanton, where the Plymouth Congregational Church stands today.

ROBERTSDALE WOMEN'S DEMOCRATIC CLUB

The 77 members of the Robertsdale Women's Democratic Club not only help their political friends, they provide food baskets to needy families for Thanksgiving and Christmas. They also had a float in the Centennial Parade.

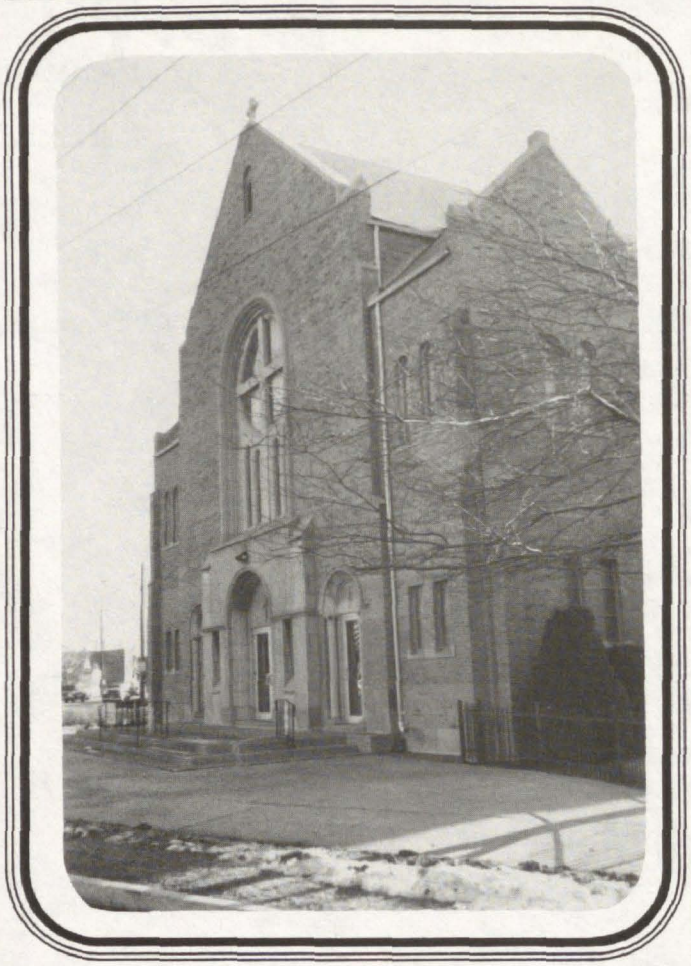
The Club, organized in 1951, has six Charter Members.

Officers include Irene Meingasner, President; Betty Chidalek, First Vice President; Marge Myers, Secretary; Joyce Sachar, Treasurer; Mary Ann Angotti, Corresponding Secretary.

SACRED HEART CHURCH
1731 LaPorte Avenue

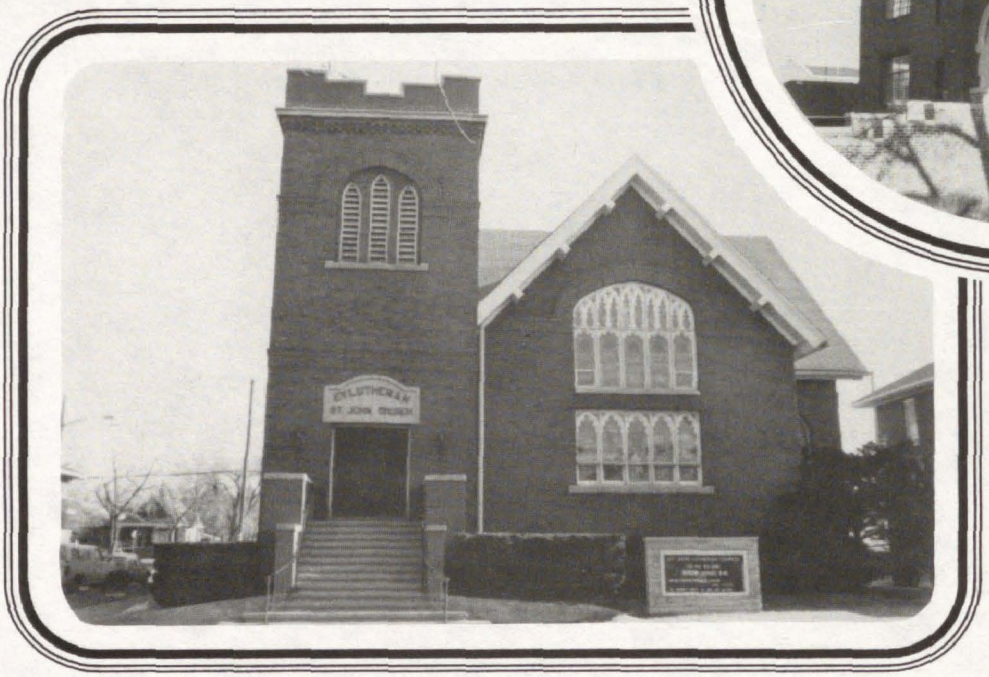
The 300 families of Sacred Heart Church have been busy celebrating the Church's Centennial during 1989. Theme for the year was, "1889-1989 A Century Together, Faith-Worship-Community." Msgr. F. Raymond Fowerbaugh is Pastor.

A very special Centennial Mass honoring both the Parish and the City of Whiting was held on January 22, 1989. Other activities included things such as a Parish Picnic in July, a banquet in October where a booklet containing the history of the Parish was presented to everyone attending, and a float in the Centennial Parade. James J. Buckley served as chairman of Sacred Heart's Centennial Committee.



ST. ADALBERT
CHURCH

PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH



ST. JOHN
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

ST. ADALBERT CATHOLIC CHURCH
Indianapolis Blvd. at 12th Street

St. Adalbert Parish was founded around 1900 by 35 Polish families who had settled in the little community of Whiting. A wooden Church was built in 1902 at a cost of $3,200. When blessed and dedicated, the Church was named St. Peter's but the name was later changed to St. Adalbert in keeping with a name close to Polish heritage. The first classroom was a large room in the back of the Church. The Romanesque style Church that stands in 1989 was completed on April 12, 1953. The Church has always been well maintained and recent improvements include things such as a new marble altar, lectern and pulpit base, re-gilding of the bronze work, a new sound system, gas boilers, re-painting. Tuck-pointing and new doors were projects completed during 1989.

Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Tomazewski, J.C.L., Pastor of the 350 family Parish said, "We are the local community of the Body of Christ, the Catholic Church, worshiping God, sanctifying its members, and passing on the Faith."

Special events during 1989 included Forty Hours, a Fall Festival and a Bar-B-Q Dinner.

MARIAN THEATRE GUILD OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH

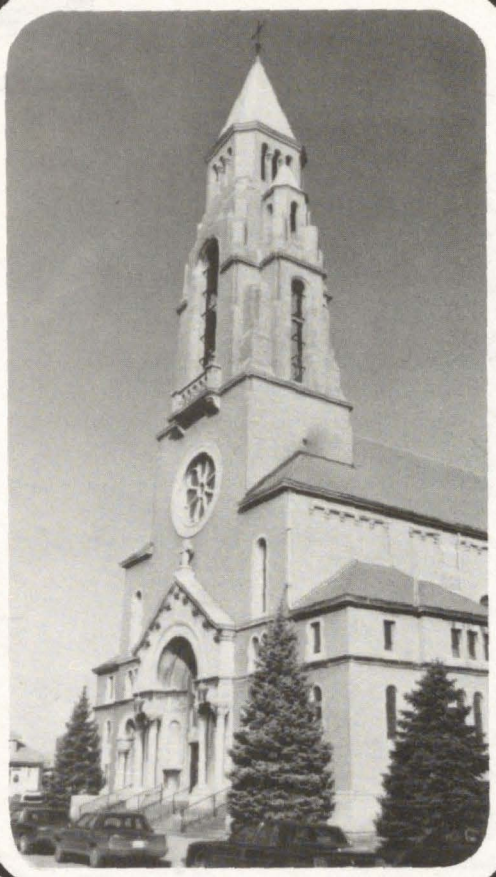
The Marian Theatre Guild originated in 1928 as the St. John Drama Club, an offshoot of the St. John Adult Choir, producing shows first in the Slovak Dom and the Whiting Community Center. During these years the Club was open only to parishioners. In the late '50s St. John expanded its facility which included an auditorium. This new auditorium became home to the Club which then was renamed the Marian Theatre Guild in honor of its patroness. The Guild then opened its membership to all interested thespians of the area and has produced shows continuously since 1928. It is one of the oldest perpetuating theaters in the state of Indiana.

Officers of the Guild are Martin Dybel, President, Annette Borgetti, Secretary, Jack Jaros, Treasurer, and Rev. Edward Homco, C.PP.S., Moderator. Rev. Andrew O'Reilly, C.PP.S. is Pastor. The group participated in the Fourth of July Centennial Parade as they have for many years.

Productions presented by the Guild in 1989 were, in the Spring, "Angel Street" directed by Joe Kus and in the Fall, "Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up?" directed by Victoria Miller with music by Mark Jancosek. These two shows will allow the group to provide a new lighting system in the auditorium.

The Fall production was dedicated to the memory of Irene Gregorovich George.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC SCHOOL

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
CATHOLIC CHURCH
REV. ANDREW O'REILLY C.PP.S.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH
1849 Lincoln Avenue

Easter Sunday, April 18, 1897 was the day Father Benedict Rajcany arrived in Whiting from Slovakia of the Austro-Hungary monarchy and thus began the parish that has become St. John the Baptist Catholic Church.

The first Church, was in actuality a meeting hall of the men's First Catholic Slovak Union. The Romanesque style church, still in use in 1989, was built in 1930 during the depths of the Depression. The Parochial Center, which houses classrooms, a gymnasium, auditorium, social and meeting facilities was completed in 1956. Today the school provides educational opportunities to approximately 500 children. The Rectory, built in 1967, completes the complex. During 1989 new lighting was installed in the Church, a ramp and a new entrance for the physically challenged was created and a Centennial tree, a honey locust, was planted in front of the Rectory.

The Parish took an active part in the Centennial Fourth of July festivities with a pirohi booth in Whiting Park, which sold more than 20,000 pirohi (all made in the St. John Pastoral Center) in the five days at the Park. St. John also had a float in the Centennial Parade featuring the Slovak heritage of the Parish. In February 1989, the Home and School Association saluted the Whiting Centennial by using a centennial theme for its three day festival.

Pastor of the 1950 family Parish is Rev. Andrew O'Reilly, C.PP.S. Associate Pastors are Rev. Kenneth Eckstein, C.PP.S. and Rev. Edward C. Homco, C.PP.S. Rev. John Zvijak, C.PP.S., in Residence; Mr. David Hajduch and Mr. Joseph Manchak are Deacons.

Thomas Puplava is Principal of St. John the Baptist School. Edward Bojda is President of the Parish Council with Ann P. Likens, Vice President and Marcia Krull, Secretary.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
ADVENTURE YEARS
L to R: SIMON CAPEK, CATHERINE CAPEK, VERA STRAKER, ANN KAMINSKY, ELIZABETH HERAKOVICH, ROBERT HERAKOVICH

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
CATHOLIC YOUTH
ORGANIZATION
L to R: JENNIFER PUPLAVA, TRICIA KURCINKA, JACK BIEL, Jr., Rev. KENNETH ECKSTEIN C.PP.S., AMY SHIMALA, KRISTI MATALIK

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ADVENTURE YEARS

Adventure Years was formed within St. John the Baptist Catholic Church to provide parishioners over age 55 with a social group of their own. They meet monthly and have speakers with expertise in various subjects that are relevant to this age group. Combined with a social hour, it offers a pleasant, rewarding experience.

The group has about 75 members. Officers are Ann M. Kaminsky, President; Betty Herakovich, Vice President; Catherine Capek, Treasurer.

Several Adventure Years members were actively involved with Whiting's Centennial activities.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC YOUTH ORGANIZATION

President of the St. John CYO is Jack Biel. Amy Shimala is Vice President, Kristi Matalik, Secretary, Tricia Kurcinka, Corresponding Secretary, Scot Davenport, Treasurer, and Jennifer Puplava, Activities Director. Fr. Ken Eckstein, C.PP.S. is the Moderator and Mrs. Linda Kazragys and Mrs. Margaret Saliga serve as Advisors of the 52 member group.

Founded in 1937, the purpose of the St. John CYO is: A. FELLOWSHIP - to provide and promote social activities; B. RELIGION - to provide and promote opportunities to experience God in life, to reflect on that experience, to share it with others and grow in faith; C. MINISTRY - to provide and promote opportunities to serve the parish and the community.

CYO activities include: Trips - Great America, a canoe trip and the Magic Waters. Religious - Mass as a group once a month, organize one Parish Mass each month, Retreats, the Passion Play on Good Friday. Service - Visit the nursing home every Sunday, and help with food drives. Car washes and candy sales are fund raisers. The CYO has its own room in the Pastoral Center and members are in the process of cleaning and redecorating it.

Fifteen members dressed as clowns and marched in the Centennial Parade on the Fourth of July.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
PIROHI MAKERS
L to R: CAROLE MARETA, MILDRED SALIGA, GERT SANDRICK
BERDIE CHILUSKI, LAURA HOLMAN, IRENE SALIGA

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
ROSARY SOCIETY
OFFICERS
L to R: CLARA GRESKOVICH, MARGARET SANTAY, DOROTHY KASPER, ANN RYAN,
MILDRED SALIGA, RUTH RAPCHAK, ANN JURBALA

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PIROHI MAKERS

This group of approximately 100 parishioners worked together planning, shopping, preparing, cooking and freezing pirohi (the Slovak version of pierogi) for the Booth the Church would have in Whiting Park during the Fourth of July festivities.

Teens and octogenarians worked side by side for several weeks either doing actual food preparation or scheduling workers for the booth, or they solicited funds and/or food supplies so there would be no cost to the Church to make the pirohi. In addition to the pirohi, sausage and sauerkraut sandwiches were also sold and those things had to be ordered. Still others set about designing the float that would be in the Centennial Parade.

Thanks to excellent planning, the booth functioned smoothly for the full five days and over 24,000 pirohi, three different varieties, were sold. St. John's Fourth of July booth, as it had been many years before, was once again a big success.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ROSARY SOCIETY

Founded on February 25, 1934 by Rev. John Kostik, C.PP.S., the Society aims to promote the spirit of unity among women. Learning, spreading and defending the truths of faith by prayer, instruction and example and the daily recitation of the rosary. Members do the sacristy work, also the sewing, washing and ironing of Church linens. The group also provides the money for the purchase of linens. Funds are raised by a Christmas Boutique and two bake sales each year. The results of these projects are always donated to the church or Parish organizations.

The 434 members are led by the following officers: Mrs. Thomas Ryan, President; Mrs. Mildred Saliga, Vice President; Recording Secretary, Mrs. John Santay; corresponding Secretary, Miss Ruth Rapchak; Treasurer, Mrs. Eugene Kasper; Parliamentarian, Mrs. Ann Jurbala; Publicity, Mrs. Andrew Greskovich; Parish Council Representative, Miss Helen Marie Lukacek. Rev. Andrew O'Reilly, C.PP.S., Pastor, serves as Moderator for the Society.

Many Rosary Society members helped with the Centennial Pirohi Booth and several were in the Centennial Chorus or served on other Centennial committees.

The Society has an ongoing project, a cookbook, "Favorite Recipes of St. John Rosary Society," which is now in its 20th printing. It has been sold all over the country and orders are still received regularly. To date, approximately 90,000 cookbooks have been sold. Its success is attributed to the ethnic recipes and menus which were all originally contributed by parishioners.

ST. MARY'S ASSUMPTION BYZANTINE CHURCH

ST. MARY'S ROSARY SOCIETY

FRONT ROW L to R:
MARY CLARK, MARY HELEN RUSNACK, MARY ANN NOWAK,
MARY GUIDEN, MARGE DEWEY, MARY HLEBASKO
BACK ROW L to R:
CATHRYN KOMETZ, LILLIAN TOTH, ROSE BOROVSKY, ANN HUTSKO
LORRAINE BENO, ROSE BARANKO, LUCY YURKANIN
ANNA BARAN, MARY SKVARA

ABSENT AT TIME OF PHOTO:
MARIE SULICH, ANN TEGOSIK

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
2011 Clark Street

St. Mary's Byzantine Rite of the Catholic Church was founded in 1899.

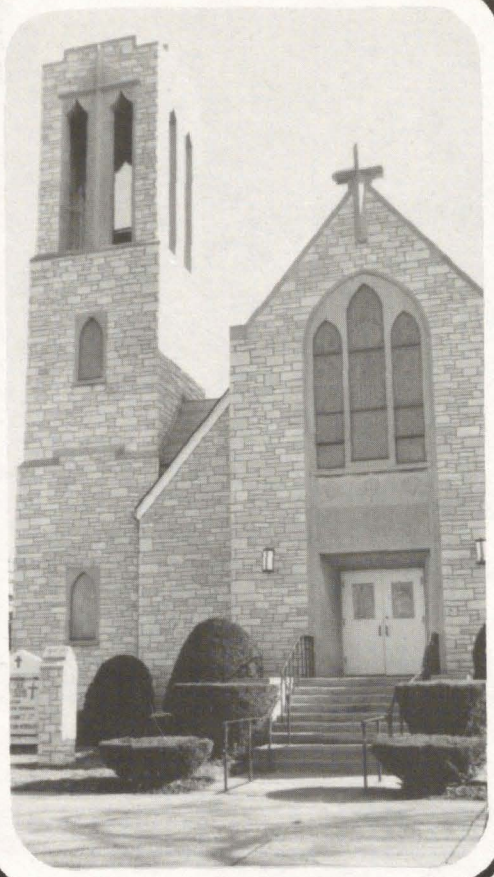
Rev. Joseph Pohorlak serves as Pastor.

ST. MARY'S ROSARY, ALTAR & SACRED HEART SOCIETIES

Organized in 1915 to help the Church in all activities, the 145 members are led by President, Mary Guiden; Vice President, Marge Dewey; Secretary and also in charge of the Altar and Sacred Heart groups, Mary Helen Rusnack; Treasurer, Mary Ann Nowak. Rev. John Pohorlak is Pastor.

The group recognized 23 women as Honor Members during 1989. They are: Anna Abrinko; Emma Benko; Anna Bodnar; Mary DeHenes; Veronica Girman; Bertha Habzansky; Julia Hornyak; Ann Ivan; Anna Kenes; Mary Kohan; Mary Kometz; Mary Kornafel; Susan Baran; Marguerite Pavliscak; Elizabeth Kundrat; Mary Michel; Anna Seman; Mary Skvara; Mary Strisko; Marie Sulich; Tillie Sullivan; Elsie Vasilko; Rose Duffalo.

During the Centennial Year, the women heard a presentation on the Beautification of Whiting and Whiting Park given by the Centennial Garden Guild. They also hosted the Centennial Chorus at their Guest Night. These busy groups help with the Church Bake Sale and Pot Luck. They clean the Church, launder the altar linens, honor deceased members with prayers, and the Care Committee visits the sick and shut-ins of the Parish.



ST. PAUL'S
EV. LUTHERAN
CHURCH

STS. PETER & PAUL
CHURCH

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
1801 Atchison Avenue

Rev. Kevin Bergmann serves as Pastor to the 330 baptized members of St. Paul Evangelical Church. David Cooper is President.

Celebrating the congregations 85th anniversary in 1989, the Church put together its largest ever float for the Fourth of July Parade. A forty foot flatbed truck was fully decorated to illustrate the theme, "A Century of God's Grace."

Organized in 1904 by a small group of Slovak immigrants under the leadership of Rev. Ladislav Boor, St. Paul's flourished for 51 years under the guidance of Rev. John S. Bradac. The congregation has been located on its present site since 1908. The present building was dedicated in 1957. Although it was founded as a spiritual home for Slovak immigrants, the congregation currently seeks to serve the entire Whiting-Robertsdale community.

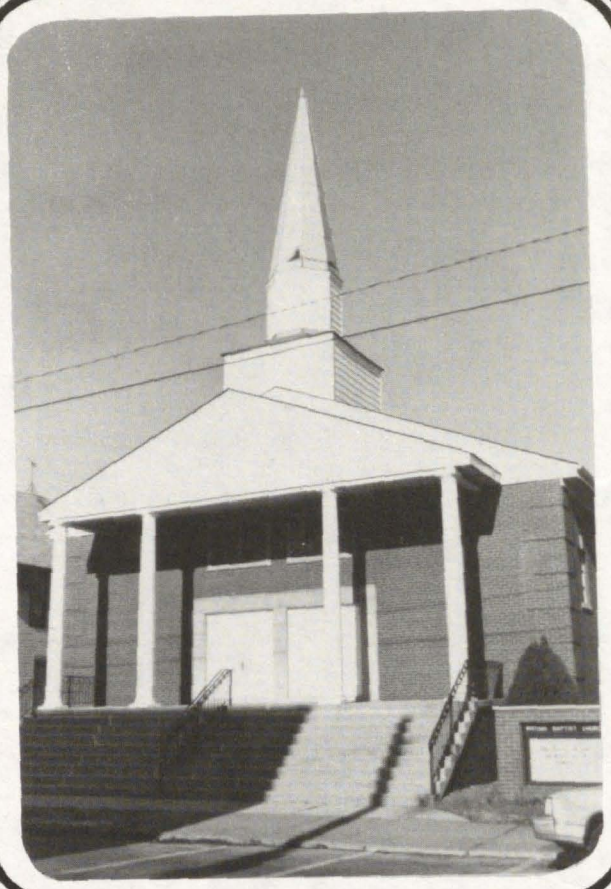
SAINTS PETER and PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH
1709 Center Street

Rev. Charles Niblick is the Pastor of the Church which was founded in 1910.

A complete interior renovation of the Church, the purchase of a new organ and new landscaping were projects completed during 1989.

The 120 families of Sts. Peter and Paul participated in the Centennial festivities by having members in the Centennial Chorus and by having a float in the Centennial Parade on July Fourth. The Parish had a concert to dedicate the new organ and also honor Whiting's Centennial.

The Parish annually sponsors a picnic that is open to the public and is well known for its barbecued lamb.



WHITING BAPTIST CHURCH

WHITING CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

WHITING BAPTIST CHURCH
1547 - 119th Street

Mrs. Ethel Keith was honored during 1989 for her 31 years as a Sunday School Teacher. Hugh Smith was honored for his 15 years as Sunday School Superintendent.

The church was founded on December 16, 1951, currently has 70 members, 11 Charter Members and is served by Reverend David Culp.

WHITING FIRE FIGHTERS
Mark A. Kobli, Fire Chief
1916 Schrage Avenue

In addition to fighting fires, Whiting's 19 active fire fighters also provide ambulance service to the City. All members received State certification in 1989, four members have become advanced life support specialists during 1989 and three became State Certified Inspectors.

Working 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, 15 of the 19 are EMT's. The Department is operated with two engine companies, one ladder company, two ambulances and one hazardous material/command vehicle.

WHITING FRIENDSHIP
FRATERNITY #805
CROATIAN FRATERNAL UNION
L to R: ANN KAMINSKY, JOSEPH YANCICH, LOUIS LOVRINICH, KATHERINE WIENING, BARBARA BENICH, ANN WALSKO

WHITING LIONS
L to R: JOHN KOSTOLNIK, BETTY BABBITT, ROBERT BABBITT

WHITING FRIENDSHIP FRATERNITY #805 CROATIAN FRATERNAL UNION

A testimonial dinner honoring 50 year members was the CFU's major project for 1989.

The 140 member international fraternal organization based in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, was founded locally on June 3, 1935.

Ann M. Kaminsky serves as the President, with George Vrbancic, Vice President, Louis Lovrinich, Secretary-Treasurer, Ann Walsko, Recording Secretary, President of Trustees is Catherine Wiening and Joseph Yancich is Claim Director.

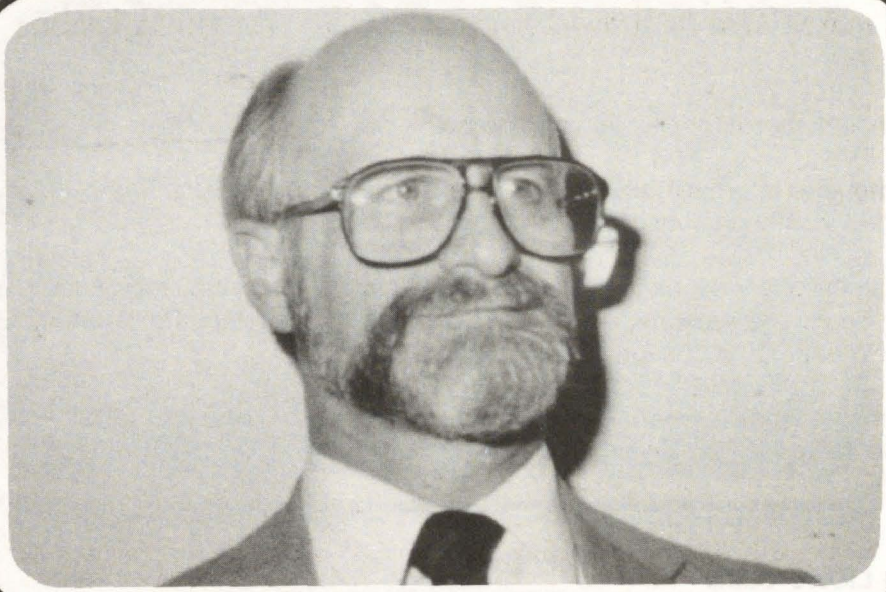
Many members worked on various Centennial Committees including Sister Anne Marie Gyure who served as the Chairperson of the 1989 Whiting Citizens Centennial Committee.

WHITING LIONS CLUB

Organized in 1929, the Whiting Lions Club, with 55 members have installed telephone devices for the deaf in both Whiting and Robertsdale Police Stations, given Christmas food baskets to the needy, provided eyeglasses for the needy, donated appliances to the handicapped, donated a diabetes tester to the City of Whiting, gave a Special Children's Christmas Party, provided Whiting and Clark High Schools with the Quest, drug awareness program, collected 8,000 pair of used eyeglasses and conducted an annual Pancake Breakfast.

Celebrating their 60th anniversary, the group also participates in Lions International projects.

The Club sponsored the Centennial Brothers of the Brush Beard Contest and had a Lions Cage float in the Centennial Parade.



WHITING-ROBERTSDALE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
JAMES SANDRICK, PRESIDENT

WHITING-ROBERTSDALE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
L to R: BETTY GHERKE, GERT SANDRICK, VERDA KLEMM
MARGARET BARSICH, ANN KAMINSKY

WHITING-ROBERTSDALE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

James Sandrick, President; John Toleikis, 1st Vice President; Robert Kark, 2nd Vice President; Bernard Taillon, Treasurer; Marian Koehneke, Secretary.

The roll of chamber of commerce in a community is to represent four of the varied factors of the community. Namely, Industry, Professionals, Commercial, and Residents.

The Whiting-Robertsdale Chamber of Commerce is unique in that it represents interests of two separate governing units in what the people perceive to be a single community.

During 1989 our objective was to assist the Whiting community in developing its vision for the future and encourage local government to continually strive to achieve those goals. During the next decade we hope to play the same roll for both Whiting and Robertsdale. Our little community by the Lake is a very special place, to succeed, each citizen must participate at some level, of only to maintain their property.

WHITING-ROBERTSDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1610 - 119th Street

Organized in 1976 as a U.S. Bicentennial project, the Whiting-Robertsdale Historical Society currently has 300 members.

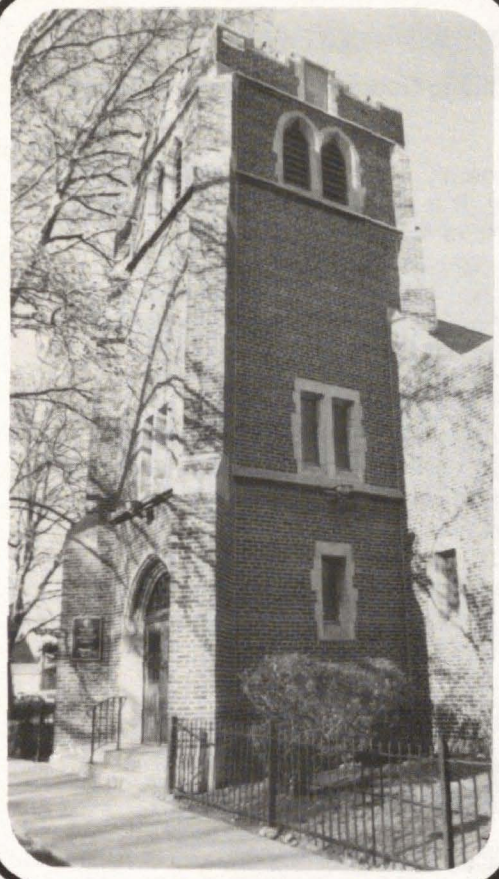
Formerly housed in the Whiting City Hall, the Society recently purchased a building at 1610 - 119th Street, which has become the local Museum. It is staffed by trained volunteer lecturers and will also serve as the Headquarters and Office for the Society.

The Society does a great deal of reference work, collecting, cataloging and preserving materials of local historical importance. Reminiscences from local residents are collected on tape and in letter form. Programs are provided for schools and organizations with historical tours, speeches and programs.

The 1989 Annual Dinner of the Society was Centennial oriented. The Society furnished historical information from its files, decorated the Museum building, planted flowers around the Pop Whiting Memorial in the Park, and furnished materials for an AMOCO slide presentation, which was shown to employees and annuitants.

The Society meets on a monthly basis and is led by the following officers: Verda Klemm, President; Gertrude Sandrick, Vice President; Margaret Barsich, Secretary; Ann M. Kaminsky, Treasurer. Betty Gehrke is Museum Director.

WHITING
PRIMARY SCHOOL



WHITING
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

WHITING
PUBLIC LIBRARY

WHITING UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Clark Street and Community Street

The Methodist Church Society was founded in Whiting on October 6, 1895. In 1905 the Church was Methodist Episcopal to be know as First Methodist. In 1970 Whiting United Methodist Church came about after merging with the Lakeside Evangelical United Brethren. There are now 152 members and the Pastor is the Rev. George L. Lohman, II.

The Church participates in Meals on Wheels, serving 55 persons in Whiting, Robertsdale and North Hammond. The Thrift Shop is an ongoing outreach project that serves community needs for clothing. There are two Alcoholics Anonymous groups that meet regularly at the Church. There are periodic luncheons that serve the aging in the community which provide fellowship time with a program. This had been going on since 1970.

The Church joined the Centennial Century Club with a Gold Membership and several members served on various committees.

"The Church sees itself as being ecumenical, with a number of its members active and known in the community. It sees itself as the beautiful Church across from the Community Center. There most certainly is a feeling of holiness in the sanctuary. We see ourselves as an important part of the community reaching out to touch lives. In the past two years there has been extensive outreach both pastoral and financial, to help those less fortunate. We help to pay utility bills, provide certificates for food and our ongoing Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter food baskets have been a blessing to many."

WHITING WOMAN'S CLUB
RAMONA OWENS

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
ROSARY SOCIETY
PAST PRESIDENTS

FRONT ROW L to R:
MILDRED SALIGA, ANN RYAN, ANN KAMIN
BACK ROW L to R:
CLARA GRESKOVICH, DOLORES LAMPA, MARY RYAN,
ROSE MATALIK, MARGARET SANTAY, DOROTHY KASPER,
RUTH RAPCHAK, BERDIE CHILUSKI

WHITING WOMAN'S CLUB

The Whiting Woman's Club was organized in 1894, currently has 82 members, and is affiliated with the General Federation of Women's Clubs, the largest and oldest non-denominational, international service organization of volunteer women in the world which has members in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and 46 countries worldwide.

Centennial year found the Club sponsoring and participating in the Community Blood Drive. Theme for the Drive was "100 Units for 100 Years." 108 citizens came to donate blood and the drive netted 98 productive units and was termed by the Lake County American Red Cross Blood Services to be "a tremendous success." The Club also donated a Sweet Gum tree, planted in Whiting Park, as a living gift to perpetuate the City's 100th year.

The General Federation of Women's Clubs celebrates it's Centennial in 1990. To commemorate the occasion, Jackson & Perkins Nursery developed a new rose, the "Jennie June," named after GFWC's founder, Jennie June Cunningham Croly. The Club purchased one of these roses and it will be donated to and planted on the grounds of the Whiting Public Library honoring both Whiting's and GFWC's Centennials. A copy of GFWC's 100 year history, "Reaching Out" was also presented to the Whiting Public Library as a centennial gift. The Mary Davies Minerva Service Group purchased winter hats, scarfs and mittens for needy children. These items were distributed through the Whiting Food Pantry.

GFWC and the Whiting Woman's Club have been leading advocates and proponents of such advances as freedom of women from legal and social constraints, conservation of natural resources, child labor laws, consumer protection and education, equal opportunity in education and employment, safety and health in the workplace, governmental reform and have contributed significantly to the civic, cultural, educational and social betterment of our citizens.

Officers for 1989-1990 are: President, Keke Owens; Vice President, June Banas; Secretary, Grace Swenson; Treasurer, Margaret Ide; Directors, Jean Balog, Ethel Bugyis, Kathryn Henthorne, Mary Hric, Vera Hultgren, Ann Kaminsky, Joan Molchan and Beatrice Stawitcke. Parliamentary Advisor, Carole Mareta. Special Interest Group Chairmen, Creative Arts & Mary Davies Service, Catherine Woods; Fine Arts, Dorothy Harwood.

WHITING UNIT 80, THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Whiting Unit 80 was organized in 1921, and the first President was Mrs. Anna Powers. The Auxiliary celebrated 68 years of service to God and Country in 1989.

The 193 member Unit oversees more than 25 programs. Their primary concern is service to the veteran and his family. Because of financial restrictions at VA Medical Centers, the American Legion Auxiliary will be more involved with the Poppy program.

Officers serving Unit 80 are: Delia Martine Stolarz, President; Joyce Sachar, First Vice President; Frances Kowal, Second Vice President; Yvonne Kistner, Secretary; Margaret Barsich, treasurer; Anne Zavesky, Chaplain; Marguerite Gima, Historian; Irene Meingasner, Sergeant-at-Arms; Helen Harris, Parliamentarian. Executive Committee: Carolyn Surdy; Julia Justak; Charlotte M. Tomera.

PACK 211
SACRED HEART
PARISH

DEN 1
SUE LAURINEC - DEN LEADER
RICH LAURINEC, ANDREW LAURINEC, JASON HOLICKY,
DAT NGUYEN, LEON LECKAVICIUS, JIM EDGE

DEN 3
MEL LIVINGSTON - DEN LEADER
ZACHARY McCONNEL, KEVIN LIVINGSTON,
MICHAEL BASIAGA, KEVIN PUHEK

PACK 211
SACRED HEART
PARISH

DEN 4
PAT TURPIN - DEN LEADER
SHAWN TURPIN, JEREMY FURTO, ANTHONY DUMEZICH

DEN 6
ARLENE TOLEIKIS - DEN LEADER
JOHN TOLEIKIS - ASSISTANT DEN LEADER
FRONT ROW
NICK McNICH, DANG NGUYEN, BRETT JENNINGS, MIKE TOLEIKIS
BACK ROW
KEITH KUBECK, JAYSON KNAZUR, DAN SKONICKI,
MIKE TOTH, ALEX GREEN

WEBELO'S DEN 6

FRONT ROW L to R:
DAN PESCHKE, EDDIE KEITH,
MIDDLE ROW L to R:
CHRIS PESCHKE, BRANDON FRITZSCHE,
BERNARDO FALAZAR, JASON TAYLOR, PAUL RANOGAJEC,
BACK ROW L to R
ART PESCHKE (CUB MASTER PACK 260), ERIC TAYLOR,
BRUCE FRITZSCHE (DEN LEADER), LARRY TAYLOR (CO-LEADER)

WEBELO'S DEN 1

FRONT ROW L to R:
JOE WOJTYSIAK, PHILLIP BARANKO, TOM STABLIEN, MARK BARANKO,
MIDDLE ROW L to R:
JAMES VALENTOVICH, RANDY KYBASZK, JUAN SEGURA,
BACK ROW L to R:
PETE BARANKO (DEN LEADER), TIM STABLIEN (CO-LEADER)

BROWNIE TROOP 70

FRONT ROW L to R:
JILL ARTIM, NICHOLE VALENTOVICH, KIM STASIK, HEATHER RAYMOND, STEPHANIE KOVACIK
MIDDLE ROW L to R:
JACKIE HAYDOCK, LISA KEITH, JESSI BOHN, AMANDA HALLIAR,
BRITTANY FRITZSCHE, BECKI STABLEIN, ROBIN LaFORTUNE, HEATHER OPIE
BACK ROW L to R:
MARY RAYMOND, JESSICA WIENKE, MELISSA NOBLE, KARI PALKO, JOANN PALKO
NOT PICTURED:
KATY HOOKER, BECKY NYKOWSKI

DAISY TROOP 405

FRONT ROW L to R:
LINDSAY PALKO, NATASHA GYURE, LISA JOHNSON, KIMMY CAREY,
KRISTINA BOHN, JOY FREDY
BACK ROW L to R:
RACHAEL BASS, LUCY BARANKO, DELIAH GYURE

BROWNIE TROOP 411 - NATHAN HALE

FRONT ROW L to R:
JACKIE HAYDOCK, RACHEL RODGERS, STACEY KWASNY
BACK ROW L to R:
TRACY BOSWELL, SHALENA KWASNY, JACKIE BENKO,
KATIE FARMER, JODIE ERICKSON
NOT PICTURED:
ANGELA LOPEZ, LAURA NELSON, JESSICA MOSKALICK, MICHELLE KOBLI

BROWNIE TROOP 87 - ST. JOHN

AMANDA BAIGI, SUSAN BOYLE, NICOLE CASEY, LAURIE DEDINSKI,
ANN MARIE DEPALMO, LAURA GULREAS, VERONICA PAPACH,
KAREN SALIGA, PATTY YNIQUIZ, VALERIE JAROSZEWSKI
NOT PICTURED:
CHRIS BOYLE, MARY LOU CASEY

BROWNIE TROOP 436

FRONT ROW L to R:
STEPHANIE IHNAT, MICHELLE KOLTUN, TIFFANY KORMAN
MIDDLE ROW L to R:
ANNE JANECZKO, KRYSSY BRANHAM, TANYA ELDRIDGE,
DOLORES GYURE, CAROLINE KUBASZAK
BACK ROW L to R:
SALLY AKERS, COLLEEN HIGGASON
NOT PICTURED:
DANNIELLE DENNISON, MEGHAN FRANCISKI, ANGELA HIGGASON,
LESLIE SMITH, ELIZABETH ENGLE, REBECCA ENGLE

BROWNIE TROOP 79 - SACRED HEART

FRONT ROW L to R:
CHI NGYUEN, PEGGY EDGE, EILEEN STAHURA, KELLY MEYERHOFF,
BACK ROW L to R:
RACHEL LYNCH, ANGIE MILLS, ADRIENNE DELUNA, DIANNE LYNCH (TROOP LEADER)
NOT PICTURED:
LISA ZUBECK, EVA STRAKA, ERIN BUTCHER

BROWNIE TROOP 194 - SACRED HEART
CAROLYN JACOBSON, MARY KAY PETRUNICH TROOP LEADERS

JUNIOR TROOP 146
FRONT ROW L to R:
JENNIFER GODING, NICHOLE BOHN
BACK ROW L to R:
CARRIE HALLIAR, HEATHER KING, LINDA HALLIAR
NOT PICTURED:
CHARLOTTE HARMON, MISTY SIMS

BROWNIE TROOP 22 - ST. JOHN

FRONT ROW L to R:
KELLY STOLMAN, TAMI LEGGS, NICHOLE VAUGHT, JILL GAJEWSKI
BACK ROW L to R:
VERA STRAKER, KIM DEDINSKY, ROBIN ADAM, KARYN DABROWA, DIANE KAMINSKY
NOT PICTURED:
SARAH MORANDO, JULIE AMBROSE, JENNY SCHAUFELE, KATIE BOYLE, ANNA BOYLE, BREINNE JUSTAK, LARA KALWINSKI, PARIS KAMINSKY

ELAINE "SKIP" GEHRING

MEMBER - BOARD OF DIRECTORS
GIRL SCOUTS OF THE CALUMET COUNCIL

ST. JOHN, FRANKLIN & SACRED HEART GIRL SCOUTS
(WATERS EDGE NEIGHBORHOOD)

© 1987 CITY of WHITING IN.

OFFICIAL PROCLAMATION OF THE MAGISTRATE

HEAR YE, HEAR YE, LET IT BE KNOWN TO ALL THAT THE CITIZENS OF THE FAIR CITY OF WHITING, IN THE COUNTY OF LAKE, STATE OF INDIANA, DO HEREBYFORCEFULLY DELCARE THAT THE PERIOD COMMENCING WITH JUNE 14, 1989 AND ENDING WITH JULY15, 1989, SHALL BE KNOWN AS **CELEBRATION TIME** IN COMMEMORATION OF THE **100th** YEAR AFTER THE FOUNDING OF THIS FAIR BOROUGH ON THE GOLDEN SANDS OF THE SOUTHERN SHORE OF LAKE MICHIGAN.

AND BE IT FURTHER KNOWN TO ALL THAT THERE SHALL BE DANCING AND REJOICING IN THE TOWN WITHOUT PROVOCATION OR LICENSE, WHERE SMILES AND MERRIMENT WILL RULE THE DAY. AND YEA, THE YOUNG FOLKS ARE INVITED TO PARTAKE OF THIS TOMFOOLERY--WITH THE CONSENT OF THEIR ELDERS--FOR 'TIS THEY WHO WILL TRULY MAKE THIS OCCASION THE EXTRAORDINARY **CELEBRATION** OF ALL TIME.

OH YEA, AND SO THAT ALL MEN MAY ONCE AGAIN CAST THEIR EYES AND GAIN TRUE PERSPECTIVE OF THE PURITANICAL BEAUTY OF THEIR LADY FOLK, IT SHALL BE UNLAWFUL DURING AFOREMENTIONED PERIOD FOR LADIES TO ADORN THEMSELVES WITH FACIAL COLORING, OR TO BE ATTIRED WITHOUT PROPER BONNETS AND FROCKS.

AND YEA, SO THAT ALL WOMEN MAY KNOW MASCULINITY AS THEIR GRANDMOTHERS KNEW IT, NO MAN SHALL BE FOUND CLEAN SHAVEN--WITHOUT BEARD OR MUSTACHE--LEST HE DESIRE TO FACE THE WRATH OF THE LAW. THE PUBLIC STOCKADE AND STOCK WILL NOT STAND IDLE FOR THOSE WHO SEEK TO ESCAPE THE LAW.

AND YEA, BY THE GREAT GENEROSITY OF THE MAGISTRATE, DAILY BATHING WILL BE ALLOWED, PROVIDED YOU HAVE A TUB.

IN REPRESENTATION OF THE POPULACE, SET FORTH THIS DAY, JANUARY 8, 1989.

BY MY HAND AND SEAL,

Robert J. Bercik

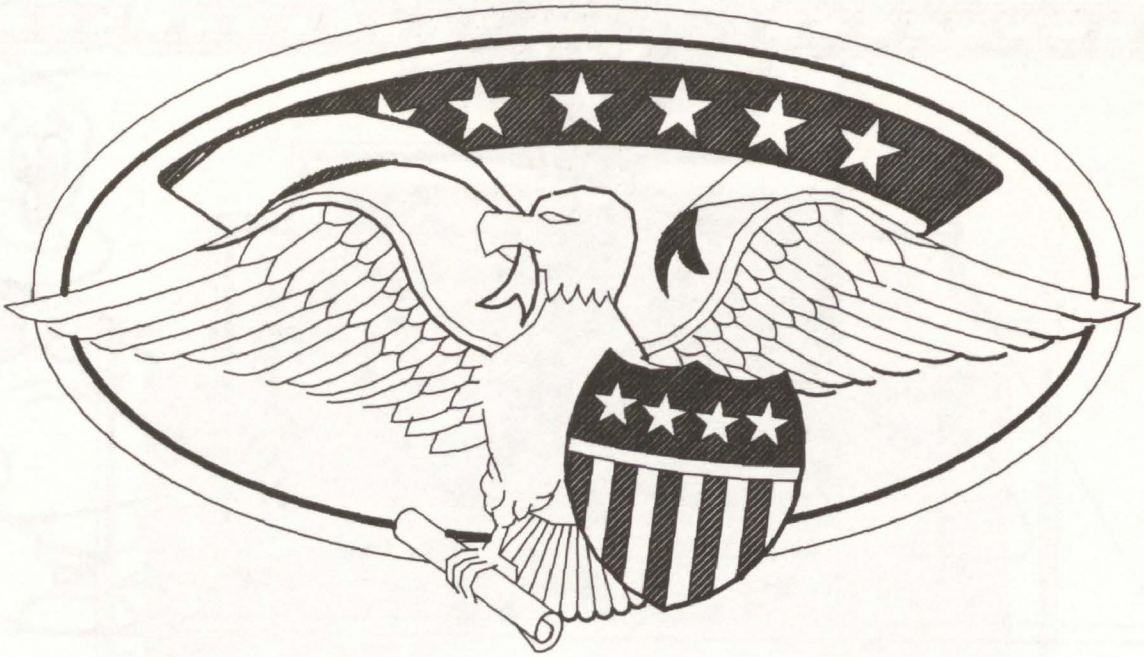
ROBERT J. BERCIK, MAYOR
CITY OF WHTING

ATTEST:

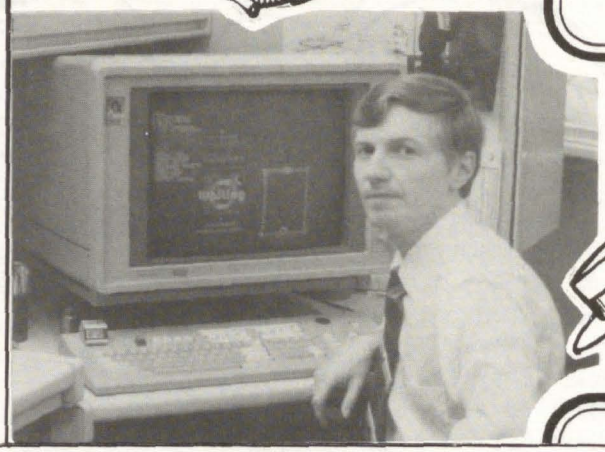
Margaret Drewniak

MARGARET DREWNIAK, CLERK-TREAS.

CENTENNIAL PROCLAMATION



1989
CENTENNIAL
COMMITTEE



WILLIAM R. HALLIAR, EDITOR IN CHIEF

ASSOCIATE EDITORS:
CAROLE MARETA
JIM SANDRICK
WRITER:
GAIL KOSALKO
CONTRIBUTORS:
WHITING/ROBERTSDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MARGIE ALEXOUIE
VICTORIA SROKA
CELENE MILLER

PRINTED BY:
P & H PRINTING
WHITING, INDIANA

"MOOSE" RANCICH
PHOTOGRAPHER

ANN M. KAMINSKY
VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

FOXY LADIES &
SILVER FOX

CENTENNIAL WHO'S WHO

WELCOME TO WHITING

by Carol Bellile

Chorus:

Come on down to the City of Whiting,
Come on down, come on down.
To a peaceful town that's so inviting,
Come on down, come on down, come on down.

(1) Friendly neighbors help each other,
Come on down, come on down.
With a pride in our city you'll soon discover.
Come on down, come on down, come on down.

(2) Once you reach the city's border,
Come on down, come on down.
The streets are safe 'cause there's law and order.
Come on down, come on down, come on down.

(3) Take a stroll thru Whiting Park
Come on down, come on down.
Peaceful, quiet—hear a singing lark.
Come on down, come on down, come on down.

(4) We've got a library second to none,
Come on down, come on down.
Where kids can learn and have some fun.
Come on down, come on down, come on down.

(5) Lower taxes is one reason,
Come on down, come on down.
And the best city services in every season.
Come on down, come on down, come on down.

(6) Schools and churches play their role,
Come on down, come on down.
They nourish the mind and nourish the soul.
Come on down, come on down, come on down.

(7) We hate to boast but we have to say,
Come on down, come on down.
We've got the best (darn/little) city in the U.S.A.
Come on down, come on down, come on down.

Last Chorus:

Come on down 'cause it's so delighting,
Come on down, come on down.
You're always welcome in the City of Whiting.
Come on down, come on down, come on down.

CENTENNIAL CHORUS

CENTENNIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

GENERAL CHAIRMAN ..... ANNE MARIE GYURE
VICE CHAIRMAN ..... JACKIE BERCIK
SECRETARY ..... CLAUDIA WACHEL
TREASURER ..... JOHN BURANOSKY

LEGAL ADVISOR ..... BILL CIESAR JR.
SPECIAL EVENTS ..... MARTIN A. DYBEL
CITIZEN PARTICIPATION EVENTS ..... *GERRY MICHAELS*
STUDENT ACTIVITIES ..... JOANNE OWEZARZAK
SR. CITIZEN ACTIVITIES ..... ANN M. KAMINSKY
PARLIAMENTARY ADVISOR ..... CAROLE J. MARETA
PUBLICITY ..... ANNE MARIE GYURE
REVENUE ..... ANNE MARIE GYURE
JACKIE BERCIK

ADVISORY BOARD

MAYOR ROBERT J. BERCIK

CAROL JACOBSON
DENNIS WELLER
MARK KOBLI
DARLENE BEERLING
JIM SANDRICK
BRUCE STOLMAN
DONNA YANAS
VICTORIA MILLER
PATTI MILLER-MANICH
WILLIAM HALLIAR

and all Executive Committee Members

HEADQUARTERS ..... SANDRICK AGENCY
LOGO ..... WILLIAM HALLIAR
MASCOT ..... ANDY JUSCIK
VIDEO PHOTOGRAPHER ..... GEORGE JEN
STILL PHOTOGRAPHER ..... *M.V. RANCICH*
CENTENNIAL CHORUS ..... FAITH C. TUMIDALSKY
CENTENNIAL GARDEN GUILD ..... PATTI MILLER-MANICH
CHARLOTTE HAYNES

OPERATING COMMITTEES

CENTENNIAL MONTH	ANNE MARIE GYURE
COMMEMORATIVE BOOK	WILLIAM HALLIAR
COMMEMORATIVE SOUVENIRS	CAROL JACOBSON
CENTENNIAL BALL	MARTIN A. DYBEL
BROTHERS OF THE BRUSH	JOHN & ROSEMARY GACSKO
KANGAROO COURT	ANNE MARIE GYURE
CENTENNIAL BELLS & BEAUS	DONNIE SABOL
CENTENNIAL TEENS	TINA OWCZARZAK
CENTENNIAL CLOWN	ALLEN ADKINS
OPENING DAY CEREMONIES	MARTIN A. DYBEL
CHILDRENS PARADE	CAROLE MARETA
PET PARADE	MADELINE CZAJKOWSKI
TRAFFIC & SAFETY	DENNIS WELLER, MARK KOBLI
RUMMAGE SALES	PAT BREITWEISER
TAG DAY	ANN M. KAMINSKY
50'S DANCE	LINDA KOWAL
TALENT SHOW	ELAINE & JEFF GAJEWSKI
VOLLEYBALL GAME	GERRY MICHAELS
PATRIOTIC DECORATIONS	CAROLE MARETA
DOWN MEMORY LANE	GEORGE GRENCHIK
RAFFLES	JACKIE BERCIK, VICTORIA MILLER
PORCH DECORATING CONTEST	BERNADETTE DVORSCAK
HAUNTED WALK	JANICE GYURE, KEKE OWENS
MADRIGAL FEASTE	FAITH TUMIDALSKY
BAKE SALES	GERT SANDRICK
FOXY LADIES	ANN KAMINSKY
4TH OF JULY BOOTH	JOANNE OWCZARZAK
ADOPT A POLES	ROXANNE KRIZO, JOANNE KRIZO
BABY CONTEST	GERRY MICHAELS
KING & QUEEN CONTEST	KATHY MILCH
SR. CITIZEN PICNIC	ANN M. KAMINSKY
PIN BOY REUNION	AL KOCH
CAR SHOW	JOHN GACSKO, JAN COPPI
ICE CREAM SOCIAL	JANE McHALE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	JIM SANDRICK
TIME CAPSULE	KAREN LUKASIK, DAVID GACSKO
BLOOD DRIVE	KEKE OWENS
FITNESS WALKS	JACKIE BERCIK
SUNRISE SERVICE	REV. JAMES FACKLAM
MOTHER'S DAY TEA	DIANE STAHURA, NANCI STOLMAN
OLDE TIMERS DAY	ANN M. KAMINSKY
KEYSTONE KOPS	ROGER WARGO, JOHN JURIGA

DIAMOND

AMERICAN TRUST & SAVINGS BANK
CENTRAL DRUG STORE
CITY OF WHITING
COCA COLA COMPANY
FIRST BANK OF WHITING
GNP CORP., STERK'S FOOD
GLOBE BUILDING MATERIALS
HOTEL NIKKO OF CHICAGO
LEVER BROS.
LTV STEEL CORPORATION
NIEHAUS MOTORS

EMERALD

AMOCO
CHICAGO MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN
LIBERTY SAVINGS
McDONALDS 101 CORP.
N.W. INDIANA BUILDING & CONSTRUCTIONS TRADES COUNCIL

RUBY

Mrs. Oscar A. Ahlgren
ATSI - Earl L. Allison
Jean Balog
Darlene Beerling
Mayor & Mrs. Robert J. Bercik
The Blackstone Hotel
Ned & Dina Blesic
Burger King
Croation Fraternal Union #805
Culver Roofing, Inc.
Paul & Charlotte Demas
Henry & Margaret Drewniak
Martin A. Dybel
Eichleay Corporation
Dr. C.E. Frankowski
Friend's
Geffert Hardware
Donald L. Gray, Attorney At Law
Ronald & Anne Marie Gyure
Helen's House of Fashion, Ltd.
Herrera's Amoco Food Shop
Moon & Theresa Hruskocy
Jack & Jill Shop
Mr. & Mrs. A. Donald Kaminsky
Ann M. Kaminsky
Key Markets
Dr. & Mrs. Paul Koch
Eirene Kompier
Edward Korosi
Ernest Korosi
Virginia Kunde
Lakeside Pet Clinic
Mr. & Mrs. Louis Lovrinch
McCormick Center Hotel
John McManus
Carole & Joe Mareta
The Mercantile National Bank of Indiana
Owen's Funeral Home
The Palmer House
Purple Steer Restaurant
Linda J. Rivers
St. Catherine Hospital
Jean St. Clair
Sts. Peter & Paul Church
Sherman's Indiana Supply
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Sinal
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Strisko
Anna Uhrin
Bessie Uhrin
Universal Trucking, Inc.
Mr. & Mrs. Martin Wachel
Whiting Auto Parts
The Whiting Clinic, Inc.
Whiting Dept. of Parks & Recreation
Whiting Emblem Club #354
Whiting Foot Clinic
Whiting Lion's Club
Whiting Refinery Federal Credit Union
Whiting Woman's Club
Dr. Terrence L. Wiak, D.D.S.
Joseph & Anne Zavesky
Jean & Ladd Zelenke

SAPPHIRE

Councilman Bill Ciesar
Folgers Flag & Decorating Co.
Councilwoman Mildred & John Greer
Councilman & Mrs. Andy Hanis
Councilman & Mrs. William Jansky
Councilman & Mrs. Donald Owens
Councilman & Mrs. Joe Stahura
Councilman & Mrs. R.H. Wunder

GOLD

Mary J. Bercik
Dr. & Mrs. William M. Bercik
Gerald Bobos
Mr. & Mrs. Robert J. Brozovich
Burton's, John & Desa Peirce
Central Agency
Danko & Goldsmith
Dunkin Donuts
First Catholic Slovak Ladies Assoc. 81
Fourth of July Parade Committee
Mrs. Cecilia Gesik
Mr. & Mrs. Norbert P. Grenchik
Mr. & Mrs. Michael P. Hughes
Mr. & Mrs. Mark A. Kobli

CENTENNIAL CENTURY CLUB

GOLD (continued)

Alexander Kompier
Robert & Richard Kovach
Virginia Gilberg O'Hair
Judge & Mrs. William J. Obermiller
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen A. Papesh
Poppen's Auto Service
Drs. Ritzi, Levin & Associates
Dave & Judy Ruzich
St. John Junior Rosary Society
St. Nicholas Lodge #72
Mr. & Mrs. F.J. Simaga
Nina H. Shocaroff
Peter Visclosky
Vogel's
Ed & Irene Waslevich
Weiner Foods, Inc.
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Weller
Whiting Service Station
Whiting United Methodist Church

SILVER

AMTRAK
Anna N. Anton
Helen T. Barnaby
William L. Bergeson Family
Mr. & Mrs. Ambrose Borgetti
Austin Boyle
Dario, Janet & Paul Brezene
Canfield's
Cantrell's Hoosier Flower Shop
City X-Press
George Corman
Daughter's of Isabella
Ditka's - Merrillville
Fran DuPey
Rev. James Dvorscak
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas M. Faulkner
Mrs. Anna Foraker
Good Vibrations
Joseph & Florence Gresko
Helen Gyure
Janice M. Gyure
George & Mary Hamadej
Harrison Park Historic District
Dr. Hoffman, Fary & Staff
Janice L. Hruskocy
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Judnick
Barb & Jim Justak
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Kotul
Marcia Ann Krull
Lincoln Lake Apts.
McLaughlin's Service Center, Inc.
Mills Auto Parts, Inc.
Jerry & Sharon Moynihan
Muffins Cafe
Mr. & Mrs. Edward A. Oblon
Osborne Apartments
Roy G. Osborne
Dolores & Allen Orgizovich
Mr. & Mrs. John Owczarzak
Eric & Krista Owens
John F. Pers, N. Township Assessor
Pet - America
R C Cola
St. John's Home & School Assoc.
Verda Mae & Rose Schuhrke
Michael, Marge & Diane Skundrich
John & Mary Sopo
Spiccia's Restaurant & Lounge
Jeanette Stefanich
Stolarz Accounting Services
Up For Grabs, Inc.
Mr. & Mrs. John Vetroczky, Jr.
Video Zone, Inc.
Mrs. Alex Wachel
Whiting Robertsdale Historical Society
Whiting Shade & Awning Co.
Bob & Thelma Wright

PLATINUM

James & Macrina Benefiel
Lula D. Brezinski
Mary Brindley
Boulevard Bakery
Emil Chovanec
Fred's Paint Store
Elaine Gehring
Mr. & Mrs. George Grenchik
Tina Gunderson
Tom Jancosek
Mike & Sharon Kometz
Karl Lohrmann
Karen M. Lukasik
Jack & Judy Mateja
James & Barbara Mikula
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony S. Mikulaj
Monica Mores
Tina Owczarzak
Robertsdale Lumber Co.
Mrs. Emma Small
Rudolph M. Zajac
Cathy Zuran

PET MEMBERSHIPS

Cinnamon B.
Heidi Brezene
Tweety Brezene
Candy & Lucky
Zuska & Bonnie D.
Ziggy G.
Bo H.
Daisy H.
Bouncer K.
King K.
Misty M.
Petie K.
Schnapps K.
Tweetie K.
Doc M.
Heidi M.
Roger Darling S.
Amanda Cleopatra W.
Chico Rico Z.

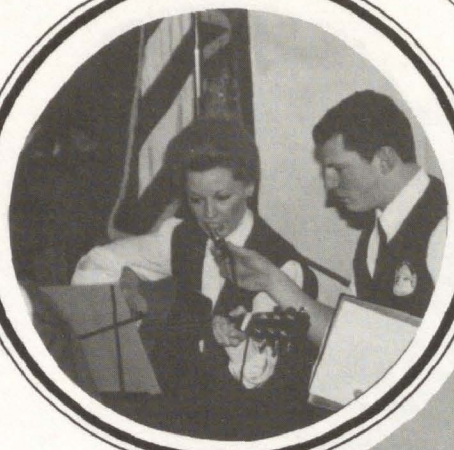
JAVIER MENA
BORN JANUARY 4, 1989
WITH PARENTS CARLOS AND ROSA
AND BIG BROTHER CARLOS, JR.

CENTENNIAL BABY

ERIC TOTH

MICHELLE RENDA

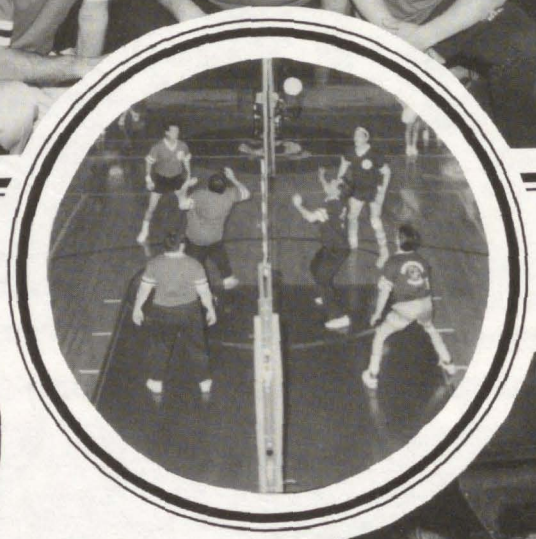
KING & QUEEN CONTEST



OPENING DAY CEREMONIES

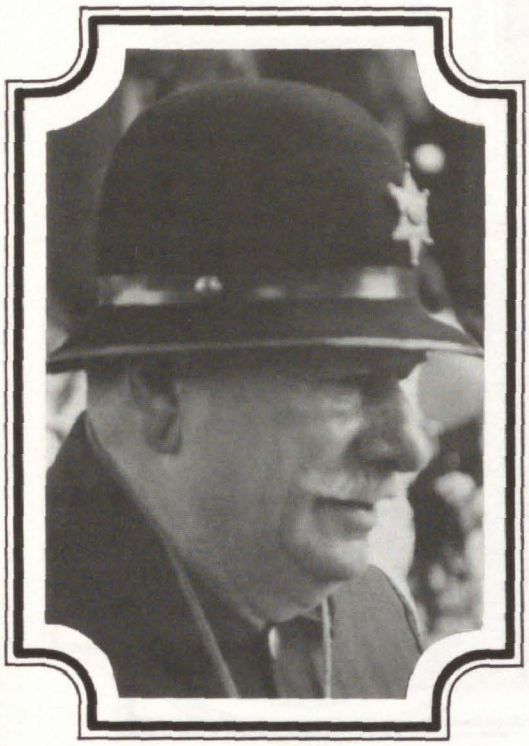
JANUARY 8

OPENING DAY CEREMONIES



FEBRUARY 19

VOLLEYBALL GAME

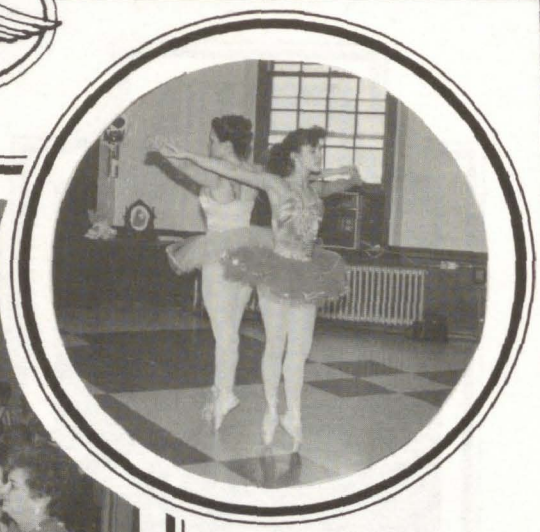


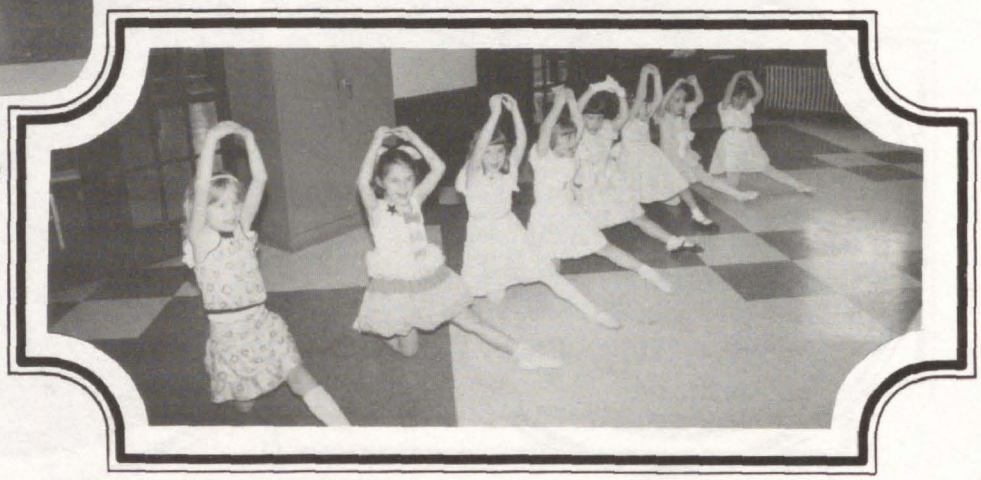
KEYSTONE COPS

TALENT SHOW

MARCH 19

TALENT SHOW

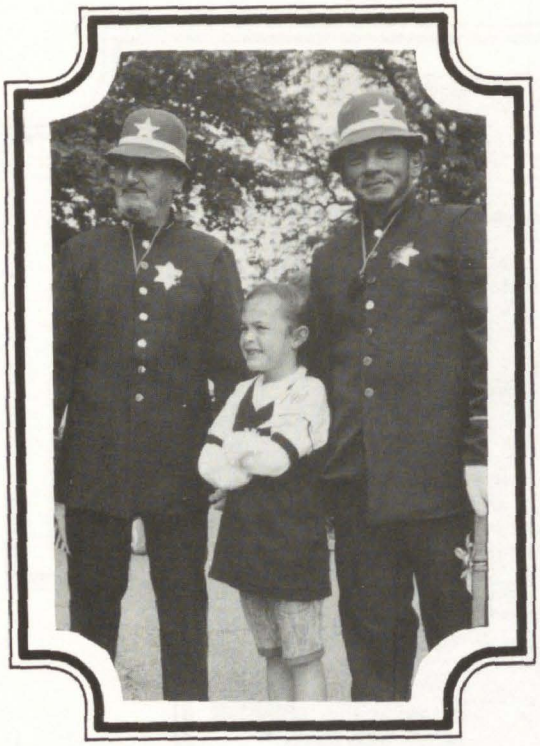




MOTHER'S DAY TEA

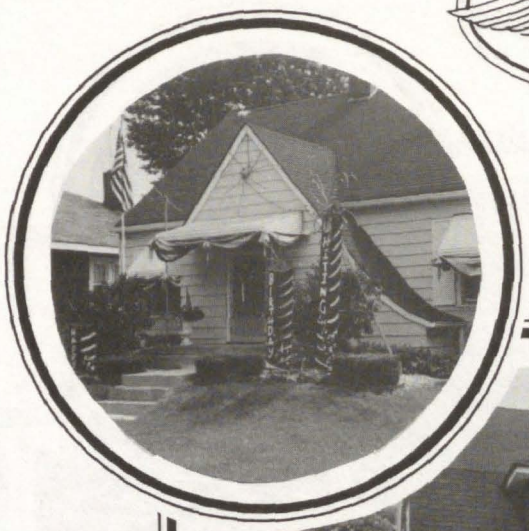
FITNESS WALKS

CHILDRENS PARADE



JUNE 14

CHILDRENS PARADE



JULY

PORCH DECORATING CONTEST

OCTOBER

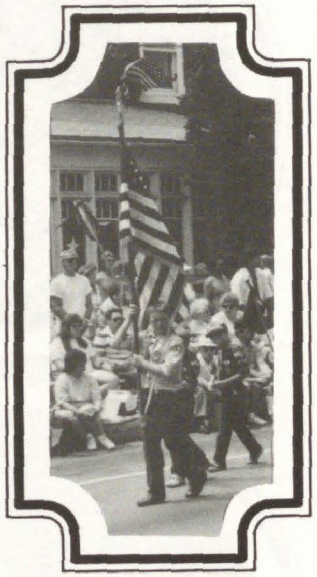
PORCH DECORATING CONTEST

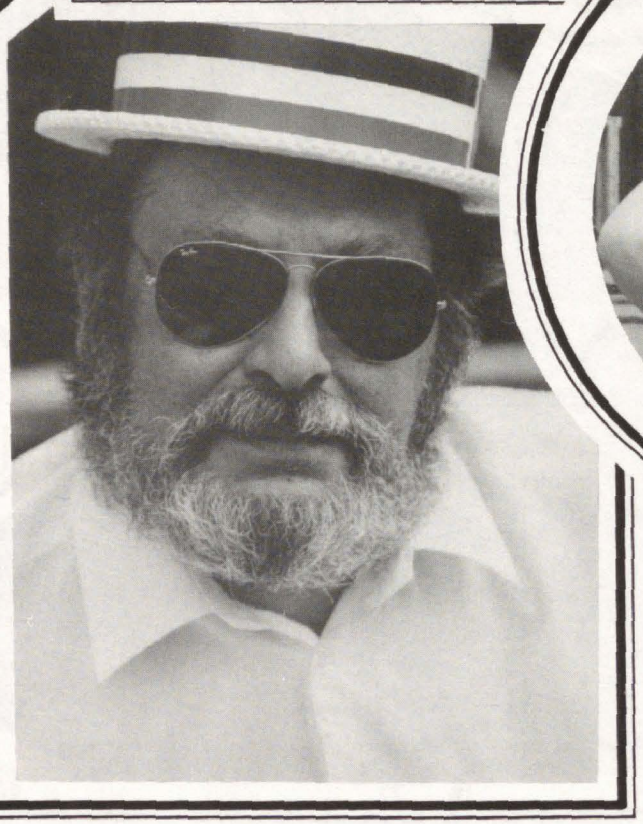
PORCH DECORATING CONTEST

DECEMBER

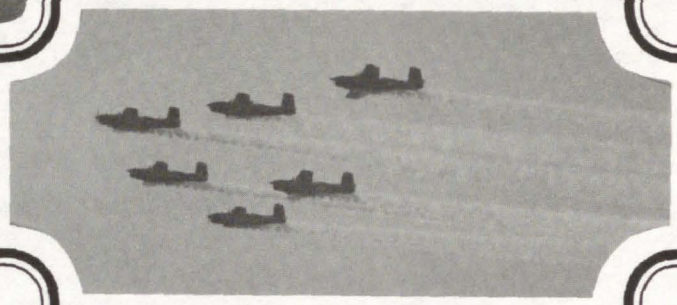
BROTHERS of the BRUSH

JUNE 30

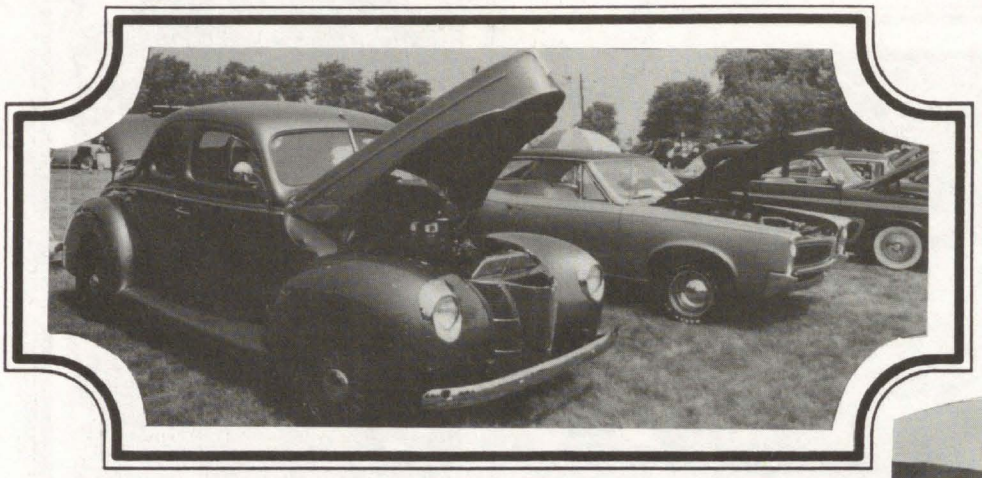


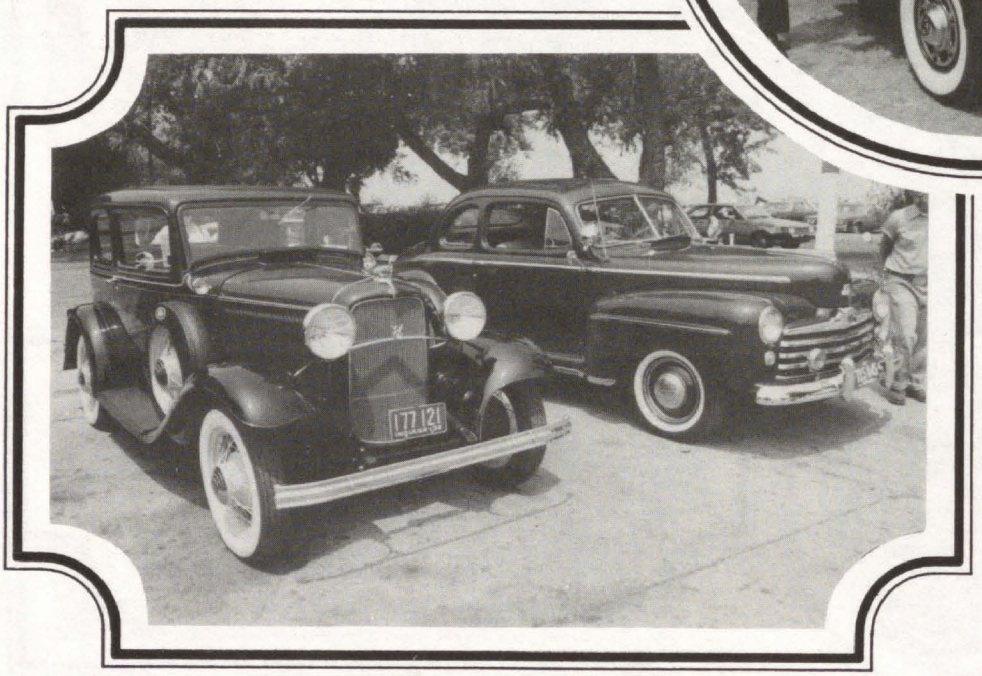


4th OF JULY PARADE



4th OF JULY PARADE



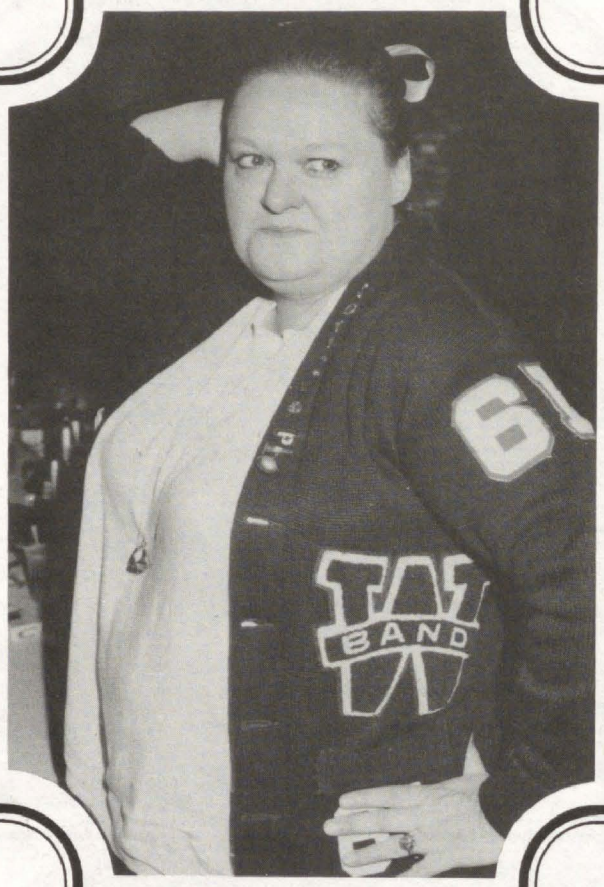


JULY 9

CAR
SHOW

AUGUST 12

PET PARADE



50's DANCE

SEPTEMBER 9

50's DANCE

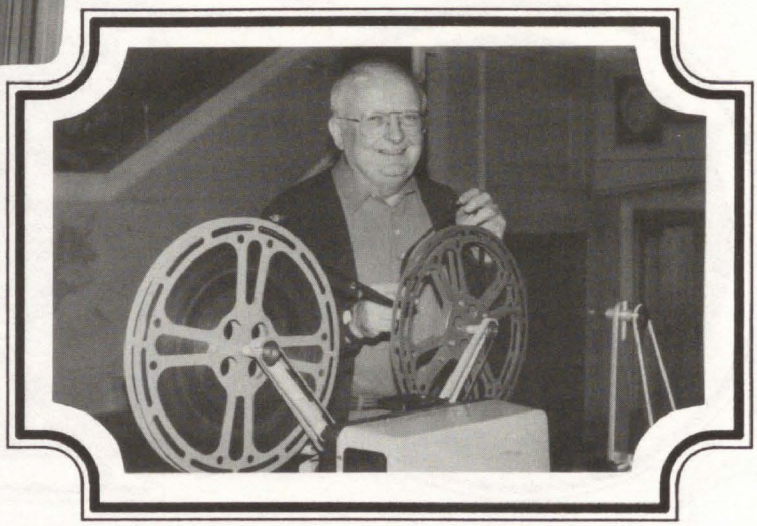
SEPTEMBER 16

WHITING'S OLDEST CITIZEN
Mrs. MARY PERHACH
MARCH 23, 1891

SENIOR CITIZEN PICNIC

OCTOBER

HAUNTED WALK



NOVEMBER 5

DOWN MEMORY LANE

MADRIGAL FEASTE

DECEMBER 6

DECEMBER 30

CENTENNIAL BALL

CENTENNIAL BALL

CITY OF WHITING

OFFICE OF:
CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

PHONE:
659-7700

WHITING, INDIANA 46394

Dear Friends:

It is with a heavy heart that we bid farewell to 1989, for it has indeed been an honor and a privilege to serve as General Chairpersons of Whiting's year long CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.

Now that it is gone, we have only our cherished memories. Memories of decorated porches, parades, picnics and concerts in the park, children laughing, beautiful music, flowers in bloom, displays of partiotism, visits to the elderly, keystone kops, men sporting beards, ladies in bonnets and frocks, and even pets in colorful costume.

Our sincere gratitude to all who in any way contributed to the success of this historic year. It is the people who make a community, and to us Whiting is the best!

Whatever your memories of the CENTENNIAL may be, we hope they are good ones and they will continue to live in your hearts and in your lives for all time to come.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WHITING!

Sincerely,

CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE
General Chairpersons

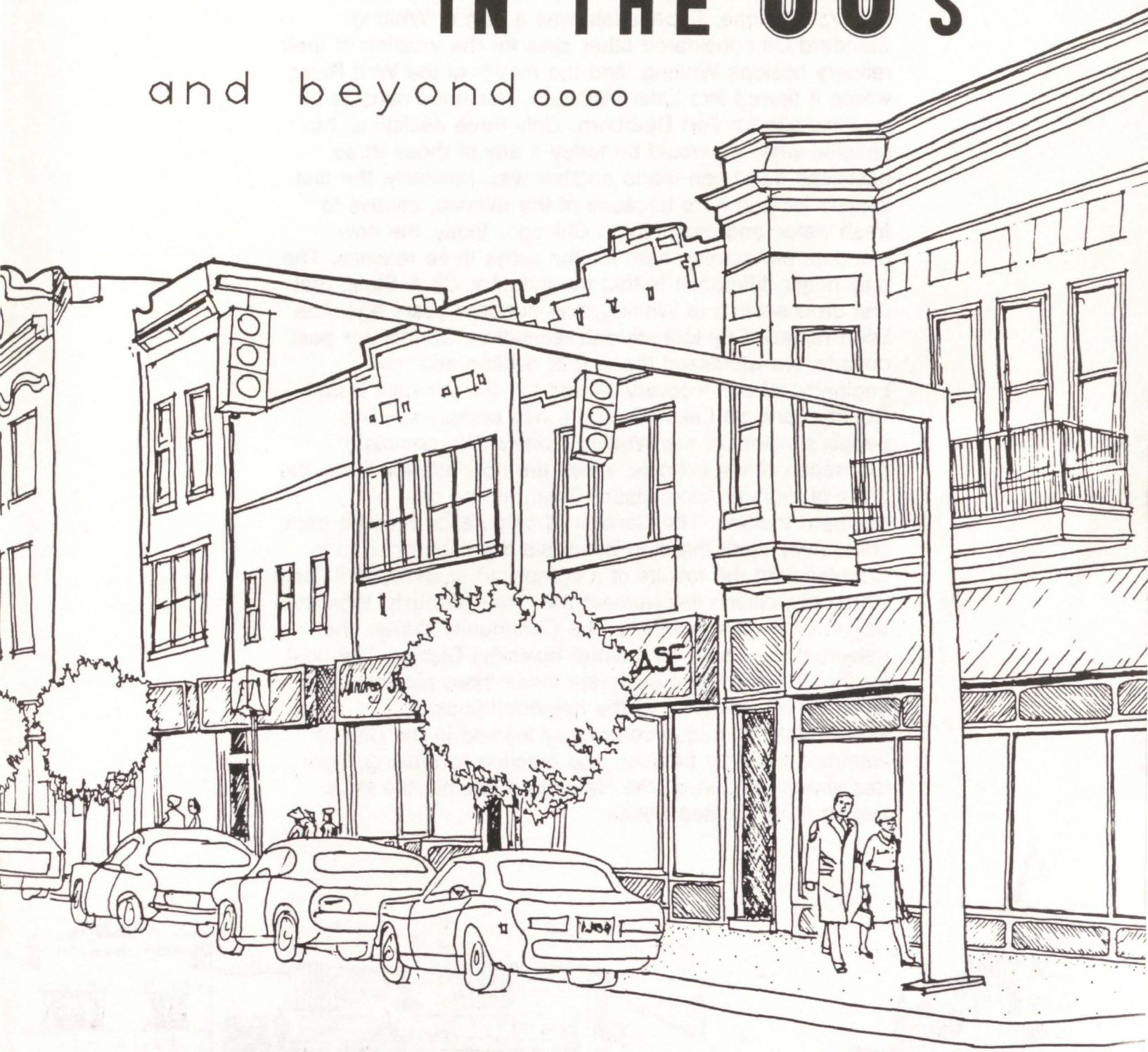
Anne Marie Gyure
Anne Marie Gyure

Jackie Bercik
Jackie Bercik

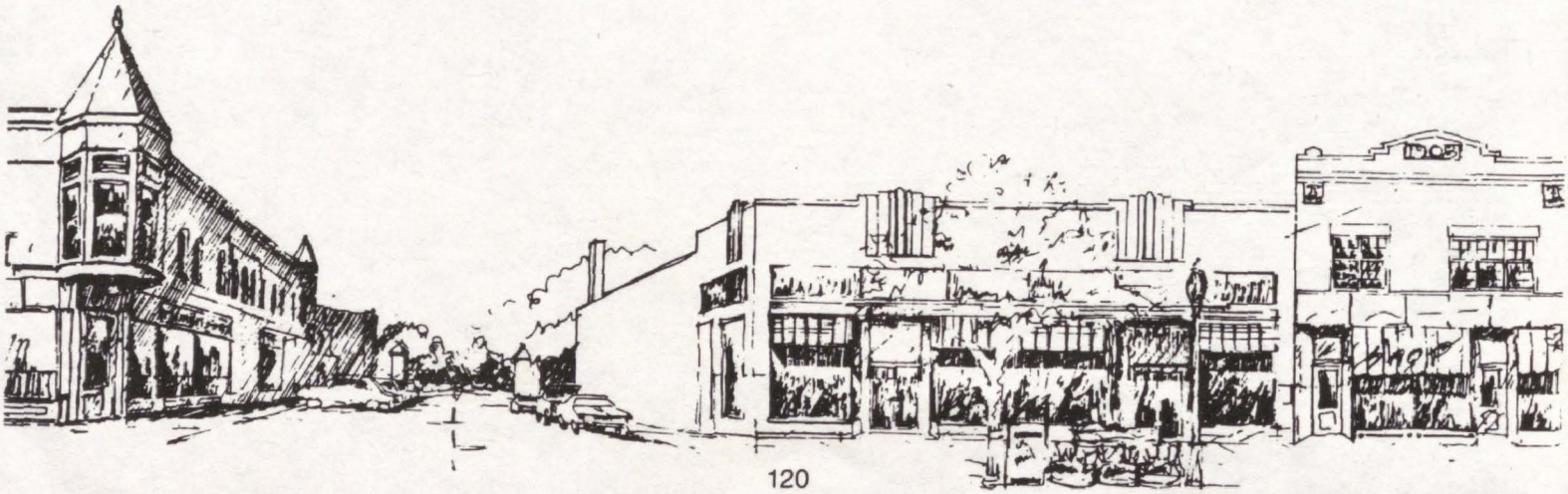
AG/JB:mr

Whiting IN THE 90's

and beyond....



On this, the eve of the last decade of the 20th century, it is difficult to imagine what our community will look like one hundred years from now, on our Bicentennial. Having just completed our Centennial celebration, we can reflect for a moment on how we got to where we are today. Consider this; At one time, Robertsdale was a part of Whiting, Standard Oil considered other sites for the location of their refinery besides Whiting, and the mouth of the Wolf River, where it flowed into Lake Michigan, was once considered an ideal site for Fort Dearborn. Only three decisions, but imagine what we would be today if any of those three decisions had been made another way. Ironically, the first settlers located here because of the railroad, access to fresh water, and proximity to Chicago. Today, the new pioneers are coming here for the same three reasons. The only major difference is that the industry, Oil & Steel, that first drew settlers to Whiting, one hundred years ago, has been replaced by tourism and recreation. During this past decade, we witnessed the end of decline and the beginning of our recovery. Phase I of the Whihala Beach County Park, on Lake Michigan, was completed. The people's victory of the Whiting Library. The complete renovation of the schools, which are now referred to by the State of Indiana Accreditation Team as the gem of Northern Indiana. The Centennial celebration brought back community spirit that had been laid dormant for so long. Coupled with the results of a completed study by Ball State University, citizen involvement rose tremendously. Work has begun on the restoration of the Community Center, the Lakefront Park and the Central Business District. The goal for the 90's will be to complete these three projects, plus focus on rehabilitation of the neighborhoods. In Robertsdale, a unique community located in the City of Hammond tied by tradition and emotion to Whiting, work has already begun on the Hammond Marina, the third largest in the United States.



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Whiting, 1889-1989, a centennial commemorative.

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LCP #0390

Pending approval by the Indiana Legislature, a major mall and sports complex is to be located on Indianapolis Boulevard, near Roby. This project, when complete, will not only have eliminated a blighted area, but will allow the City of Hammond to create funds necessary to make other improvements in that area, as well as build the overpass from Indianapolis Boulevard to the proposed Lake Shore Drive. The mall and sports complex will also create 1400 new jobs. Whiting/Robertsdale Chamber of Commerce, working hand in hand with the newly formed Community Improvement Corporation, will work together to organize the Robertsdale community to develop a master plan geared specifically toward Robertsdale, our neighbor to the West. With the cooperation of the Hammond City Government, we will attempt to pursue the recreational potential of Wolf Lake, George Lake, and the surrounding area. It is our responsibility to ourselves, to our community, and to the people who will celebrate Whiting's Bicentennial to hold fast to the vision of what we can be, and pledge our time and resources to move beyond petty differences. Harry Truman once said, "Imagine all we could accomplish if it didn't matter who got the credit." Nearly one hundred years ago, some author equated Whiting to a butterfly. The same statement holds true today. The development and growth of Whiting/Robertsdale will be like a butterfly breaking forth into the beauty of a new life. The small community nestled quietly on the shores of Lake Michigan, will be an integral part of the renewed interest in Northwest Indiana. We have been very fortunate, though many have thought otherwise, the butterfly never died. It has just been lying dormant, waiting. The spirit of the Centennial has awakened the butterfly. Hear the flutter? It's very exciting. One hundred years from now, will anyone ever know that you were here? You can make a difference.

JIM SANDRICK, PRESIDENT
WHITING/ROBERTSDALE
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

WHITING INDIANA